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Bernard Levin: The American sound of music, page 14

Home Office to act over racialist attacks

The Home Office is to begin an immediate study of racialist organizations in Britain and the Home Secretary will discuss with police chiefs the feasibility of setting up units to monitor and investigate racist attacks. This was disclosed by a member of a delegation from the Joint Committee against Racial Discrimination which saw Mr Whitelaw yesterday.

'Thousand incidents in 18 months'

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, has agreed that the Home Office should begin immediately a study of racialist organizations in the United Kingdom. He will discuss with police forces inside and outside London the feasibility of setting up police units to monitor and investigate racialist attacks.

That was disclosed last night by Mr Gavin Grant, one of a delegation from the three political parties, the churches, and the Jewish and Asian communities which told Mr Whitelaw of an increase in racialist attacks on people, property, and places of worship.

The Home Secretary is studying disturbing evidence of mounting racial tension in many parts of Britain, as the economic squeeze increases bitterness and competition for scarce jobs.

The delegation he met was from the Joint Committee against Racial Discrimination, an umbrella organization for the bodies represented and for other interested groups. They told Mr Whitelaw: "Many *Asian communities now live in* a state of fear. Families are converting their homes into fortresses with barricades against windows and doors."

Attackers used bricks or tried to set fire to premises. Many houses, shops, and cars had suffered repeated damage, the delegates said.

A report from the joint committee, which is being studied by Mr Whitelaw, says: "We are greatly concerned by the apparent links that exist between British racist and fascist groups and their counterparts in Europe and elsewhere, some of whom have advocated and used terrorist tactics. We would urge the Home Office to investigate these connexions."

Asking the police to respond more urgently and in a more caring manner to attacks and assaults, the committee suggests that the new specialized units, which Mr Whitelaw is to discuss, should be formed on the lines of the drug, robbery or vice squads.

The report speaks of the consequences of a failure to protect and defend synagogues, temples, and places of burial against attacks which, it says, are becoming more widespread. There appears to have been a rapid growth of vigilante groups, with several of them organizing self-defence training classes.

For its survey the joint committee contacted 71 community relations councils and many other bodies, including community law centres, ethnic minority organizations and community groups.

The committee knows of at least a thousand attacks in the minority communities in the last 18 *months and believes the* total may be several thousand. Its report of mounting tension is *supported independently* by evidence to the Commission for Racial Equality of racial violence in all regions of England.

The latest figures available to the commission show an increase from 48,420 to 82,541 in the number of unemployed in the black and Asian communities in the 12 months up to *November. That* represents a 70 per cent rise, against 60 per cent for all registered unemployed, it says.

But the total does not include many black people who are so alienated or disillusioned that *they do not bother to register.*

The commission has been told of demonstrations against police in several areas by black people or Asians, disturbances over unemployment, and homelessness among young black people in several parts of London. Racial harassment has been reported in Barking, Hackney, Newham, and Tower Hamlets in London and in other centres including Oldham, *Greater Manchester*, which continues to be racially sensitive after a National Front march there in April, 1980.

A corroborative report by the joint committee cites arson attacks on private houses and a temple in Oldham. Two mosques were daubed with swastikas.

The report says: "We could equally have chosen Manchester, Preston, Blackburn, or Dewsbury, all of which have suffered from similar incidents, in some cases worse than those that have occurred in Oldham. Extreme right wingers are active in these areas, and the collapse of the textile industry *is causing worry and tensions* in the area."

The report shows that the racial violence is no longer occurring only in the hearts of great cities. High Wycombe is given as an example, where the community relations council property has been subjected to a number of attacks since *1976*.

Other incidents had been reported at Milton Keynes, Bedford, Hemel Hempstead, Hitchin, Stevenage and such London suburbs as Croydon, Chingford and Ruislip. A similar pattern emerged in the Kent towns, particularly those in the Medway area, and in Slough and Reading.

The lack of trust between political and ethnic minorities had disappeared in too many towns. If it was not rebuilt "we fear a clash between extreme right-wing thugs and self-defence groups".

TUC chief in clash with Prime Minister

By Patricia Tisdall and Donald Macintyre

Trade union leaders crossed swords over unemployment with the Prime Minister on two occasions at yesterday's meeting of the National Economic Development Council.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, drew a vehement denial from Mrs Margaret Thatcher when he accused her of using unemployment to "screw down wages". The Prime Minister retorted that this was "a travesty of the truth".

Later, Mr Murray took the unusual step of interrupting the Prime Minister's summary from the chair at the end of the 90-minute discussion on the economy. He claimed she was exaggerating the amount of agreement existing between the Government, union leaders and industrialists.

Mr Murray was disappointed with the lack of response by industrialists and the Government to TUC economic proposals. "Three *million* unemployed was not conducive to change", he said. "Present policies would not help us to *pull out of recession*."

The general tone of the meeting, however, was one of coolness rather than bad temper. In a resumé afterwards, Mr Geoffrey Chandler, the director general of the National Economic Development Office, described it as "serious and civilized".

TUC leaders left the meeting frustrated at the lack of impact they appeared to have made on either the Government or the Confederation of British Industry with their "Economic Review" which recommend a a £6.2m injection of funds into the economy.

Sir Raymond Pennock, the CBI's president, commenting on the TUC plan, expressed "total disagreement with the analysis of the problems and therefore with the solutions suggested".

For the Government, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that its concern about unemployment was as great as that of the TUC. Inflation and unemployment have both been getting worse over time and "there was no comfortable trade-off between the two".

He added that the Government wanted growth without inflation, and "we can only do this by improving our competitiveness". While there was no mention of either in the *TUC's proposals, the Government's* view was that "competitiveness and productivity were the key to success".

Observers at the meeting felt that it had achieved little more than airing familiar and fundamental disagreements on economic policies.

Some progress was made on industrial relations. The CBI volunteered to do its best to help in cases where management was failing to communicate. The offer was made in response to a comment by the TUC that the recession had led to a deterioration in the amount of information which "born again" managers were *giving to employees*.

Mrs Thatcher endorsed the case for fuller disclosure of information by employers in her summing-up. She said that it was "not possible to negotiate in the absence of fact", and that she "fully supported the need for companies to supply information. We must embrace change".

She said she was "alarmed at the total lack of understanding" between the TUC and the CBI, and asked the NEDC to set out an agenda on how a better *understanding for competitiveness* in industry could be achieved.

Basque violence: The visit of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain to the Basque region was marred yesterday by a violent interruption to the King's speech in the regional parliament at Guernica. About 40 members of the extreme left-wing Herri Batasuna party raised their left fists and sang a nationalist song. They were drowned out by cries of "Long live the King", but punches were exchanged when plain-clothed security guards seized the protesting MPs (above) and dragged them from the chamber.

When the royal couple first arrived at the chamber, members of Herri Batasuna (Basque Unity) and Euskadiko Eskerra (Basque Left) remained seated during the Spanish national anthem. The singing began after the King had gone to the podium to reply to an address welcoming him.

Euskadiko Eskerra members were among those who submerged the demonstrators' chants with acclamation for the King and loud applause. Security men in traditional Basque costume pleaded with the shouting MPs to halt their demonstration, and it was only when this failed that the security guards burst into the chamber. —Reuter. Report, page 5.

Japan gets a shot of instant whisky

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Feb 4

After the success of instant coffee, barmen of the future might soon toss a teaspoon of powder into a glass of ice and water to produce scotch on the rocks, a martini or an after-dinner brandy.

A Japanese chemist has been so successful in mass producing a powder which can be converted into any form of alcohol that the Government has been forced to revise the country's regulations which tax alcoholic drinks.

Mr Jinichi Sato, a 55-year-old chemist and president of the Sato Food Manufacturing Company of Komaki City, first patented the method in 1973 but claims he was unable to market it on a commercial basis under former official *restrictions*.

After a protracted wrangle Mr Sato has persuaded the Government to revise the law to include his powdered drinks as a "miscellaneous form of alcohol".

Mr Sato will at first market sake, Japan's traditional form of rice wine, as a powdered drink; but he claims he can produce instant whisky, brandy, wine and other cocktails.

The powder, which will be sold in small bags, is simply mixed with water and ice to produce an instant drink.

According to government chemists who have tested Mr Sato's drinks, sake can be produced by mixing 600 grams of *powder with 1.8 litres of* water.

"The taste is not quite as smooth as good sake but it is very convenient and can be carried anywhere. It should prove a hit with mountaineers and hikers", a government chemist says.

In normal circumstances it is impossible to reduce alcohol to a powder form because the boiling point of alcohol is lower than that of water. As a result alcohol is lost before water evaporates.

Mr Sato claims he overcame this problem by adding dextrin to sake and then putting the liquid through a heat processing system at specified temperatures.

"Under this system water is evaporated, leaving alcohol as a powder like dry flour. When water is added again the drink regains its original properties. The flavour and taste is retained", Mr Sato claims.

A spokesman for his company says that Mr Sato is the first chemist in the world to patent *a system which can convert* alcoholic drinks into instant powder on a commercial basis.

'Die Welt' staff in fight to keep editor

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 4

A new page in West German press history is being written with a battle by the journalists of *Die Welt* against alleged plans by the Axel Springer publishing house to turn their daily back into a right-wing crusading paper.

Die Welt is the most highly esteemed newspaper in the publishing empire of Herr Springer, who openly uses his press power to spread his political opinions. It participates with *The Times*, *Le Monde* and *La Stampa* in the monthly supplement *Europa*.

Behind closed doors the 120 journalists have protested at what they reliably understand to be plans to remove their editor, Herr Peter Boenisch, who in the past two and a half years has made *Die Welt* a lively, liberal, and professionally more ethical paper.

They believe the company intends to steer it back on a far-right-wing course under the leadership of three well-known journalists of right-wing opinions—Herr Matthias Walden, a political commentator, Dr Herbert Kremp, a former editor, and Herr Wilfried Hertz Eichenrode, the newspaper's home editor.

A spokesman for the company in Berlin said today he "knew nothing" of such a plan.

At a meeting at the *Die Welt* headquarters in Bonn this week the journalists appealed to the company to keep Herr Boenisch and demanded to be allowed to work in peace and continuity.

"We are fighting not only for our editor but for our professional ethics", a spokesman for the journalists said. "Our *dignity is at stake*."

The journalists have been unsettled by constant uncertainties and changes in the newspaper, which has seen 14 editors in 15 years. "We do not dispute the right of a publisher to appoint an editor but a publisher cannot ignore the will of the journalists", the spokesman said.

Die Welt, which was founded by the British occupation authorities after the war, was for many years one of the best, if not the best, West German newspaper. In 1953 Herr Springer bought a majority share in it and in the 1960s the newspaper lost its reputation and its best journalists when he turned it into what the Germans call a political *Kampfblatt*, a crusading newspaper for his ideas.

Under Herr Boenisch it became probably the liveliest West German national daily. Lightweight in tone, it opened its pages to other political ideas while maintaining a basically conservative line.

Justifiable homicide verdicts on siege

Verdicts of justifiable homicide were returned on the five terrorists killed by men of the Special Air Service Regiment at the Iranian Embassy siege in London last year. It took the jury at Westminster Coroner's Court almost an hour to reach their verdicts. When they returned, Dr Paul Knapman, the coroner, said: "I am a little surprised it has taken you so *long*". *The terrorists died of* multiple injuries and Dr Knapman told the jury that the SAS used weapons that fired 10 rounds a second. "Ask yourselves whether it is reasonable to shoot first and ask questions afterwards", he said. "The SAS took no chances" Page 3

Britons killed in Zimbabwe

A British couple working at a missionary school near the Mozambique border in Zimbabwe have been murdered. Mr and Mrs Donald Lale, from Watford, Hertfordshire, were missionaries with the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mrs Lale was shot dead after two black men forced their way into their bedroom and Mr Lale was beaten to death Page 6

Fashion houses go bankrupt

Two more leading British fashion designers with international reputations, Ossie Clark and Thea Porter, are going out of business, victims of the textile trade's worst recession since the war. Many others have been badly affected and only two of the five big *London fashion designers have* survived at full strength into 1981 Page 3

Water offer of 10 pc rejected

After rejecting a pay offer of 10 per cent, union leaders *in the water industry took the* final step towards sanctioning a campaign of industrial action. Employers hinted that they might hold a secret ballot of workers. Page 2

Hopes rise for Iran Britons

Hopes are rising that the four Britons detained in Iran might be released soon after a statement by Ayatollah Beheshti, the head of the Supreme Court in Iran, that a decision on their fate would be reached "in a few days" Page 5

Thoresen ferries sail after pay deal

Southampton cross-Channel ferries resumed after a pay deal said by the seamen's union to be worth 14.3 per cent, but Townsend Thoresen insisted that it was a straight 12 per cent deal, well within guidelines Page 3

Talks fail with Polish strikers

Talks have broken down between the Polish authorities and strikers in Bielsko-Biala province Mr Walesa, the Solidarity leader, told the workers to stage occupation strikes in case of an attack on Bielsko but not to press any new demands and to offer only passive resistance Page 6

Bomb attacks on dissidents

Two Romanian dissidents were injured when three parcel bombs went off at their homes in Paris and Cologne. A third dissident escaped injury but a bomb disposal expert was slightly hurt Page 4

'Bungling' delays famine relief

The Save the Children Fund field director in Uganda accused the United Nations Development Programme of "bungling inefficiency" in co-ordinating transport of food to the famine region of Karamoja Page 6

England beaten by two runs

England lost the first one-day international in St Vincent by two runs, when the West Indies dismissed them for 125 in 49 overs. Croft took six wickets and for England Botham scored 60 Page 12

Call-up denied: Mr James Prior discounted reports that the Government is considering conscription for unemployed young people 2

Peking: As the Year of the Cockerel is ushered in uncertainty reigns over the struggle between China's top leaders 6

Lima: Peru calls for demarcation of its border with Ecuador along the disputed 50-mile stretch 6

Sao Paulo: An eight-page Special Report on the urban giant of South America

British Aerospace shares on public offer

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

The Government is to inject £100m of new equity capital into British Aerospace under the termsof an offer for sale of shares in the airframe manufacturers to the public.

So the outcome of the long-heralded public flotation of the group—the first big exercise in "provatization" apart from National Enterprise Board disposals by the Government—is that the Exchequer will benefit by only £50m.

A total of 100 million shares are being offered to the public at 150p each, thus raising £150m of which £100m will be used by the Government to subscribe for the new capital.

With loan facilities of around £100m, whoch have been negotiated with banks, this is to help to finance the group's heavy development programme, notably on the civil side of its business, where it is involved in the development of wings for the A310 advanced European *Airbus and its own 146 feeder* airline programme.

Underwriting was successfully completed in the City yesterday by Kleinfort, Benson, the issuing house. Half the equity will now be offered to the public.

The Government will end up holding between 48.37 per cent and 50 per cent of the capital, depending on the extent to which employees take up shares being offered to them.

An important condition attached to the offer is that

Continued on page 17, col 3

European Commission takes legal action against three states over budget dues

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 4

The European Commission decided here tonight to start legal proceedings against West *Germany, France and Belgium* for not paying their EEC budget dues in full.

The first move will be to ask the three countries to explain why they have defaulted on their payments.

If the Commission is not satisfied with the explanations given, the three member states will be asked to pay the money that is owing. Failure to do so would mean their being taken to the European Court of Justice.

This somewhat leisurely procedure—it was open to the *Commission to take swifter* action—suggests that Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, and his colleages are hoping the matter can be settled out of court.

The trouble arose last December out of a dispute between member states and the Parliament over the size of a supplementary budget for 1980 and the budget for 1981.

Particularly controversial was the Parliament's decision to use the 1980 supplementary budget, which had been intended only to finance emer*gency aid to Italian earthquake* victims, to increase spending on regional and social policies.

All three of the accused Governments refused to pay in full their contributions to the 1980 supplementary budget, and France and West Germany earlier this week defaulted on part of their contributions to the 1981 budget.

100 Labour moderates declare themselves

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Four more former Cabinet ministers, including Mr Edmund Dell, five former ministers and six former MPs, all from Labour, are among 100 supporters of the new Council for Social Democracy whose names are published today.

Publication of the list is intended to promote support for a new party to be launched possibly as early as mid March. Final decisions are still to be taken, but one breakaway Labour MP insisted privately that public pressure had now brought forward the launching date.

The list includes one trade union leader, Mr Frank Chapple, and people prominent in business such as Sir Leslie Murphy and Mr David Sainsbury; in science, Lord Flowers and Sir Frederick Dainton; in economics, Professor Frank Hahn, Professor James Meade (a joint winner of a Nobel prize) and Lady Jackson of Lodsworth (*Barbara* Ward). Academic figures include Lord Bullock, Mrs Jean Floud, Lord Young, and Professor Michael Zander.

The list, described as a "cross section" of the 8,000 people who expressed support in the seven days following the *announcement* of the council on January 25 by Mrs Shirley Williams, Mr Roy Jenkins, Mr William Rodgers, and Dr David Owen, was published as an advertisement in *The Guardian*.

It cost some £5,000, paid for out of donations so far received, which include several contributions of £500, and one of £1,000. *The Guardian was chosen* "to have greatest effect on the Labour Party", according to *one* of the council's organizers. The advertisement includes a coupon appeal for support and donations.

It formally adopts the term "Limehouse Declaration" given to the joint announcement of the council by Mrs Williams and *her colleagues, and reprints it.* That statement effectively launched the council as the basis for a new party.

The former Labour Cabinet ministers (who with the four sponsors bring the total to eight) are Mr Dell, Lord Diamond, Lord George-Brown and Mr Kenneth Robinson. The former junior ministers are Mr Austen Albu, Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Mr Evan Luard, Mr Dick Taverne and Lord Kennet (Mr Wayland Young).

Mr Dell, aged 59, Secretary of State for Trade in Mr Callaghan's government, was recently appointed chairman of the panel *of consultants planning* the fourth television channel. Lord Diamond, aged 73, was Chief Secretary to the Treasury from 1964 to 1970. Lord George-Brown, aged 63, recently elected president of the separate Social Democratic Alliance, is a former deputy leader of the Labour Party. Mr Robinson, aged 69, was Minister of Health from *1964 to 1969*.

The list is most notable for possible Labour defectors. It includes people prominent in local government, and in constituency parties, such as Mr George Canning, former Lord Mayor of Birmingham, and Mr Clive Wilkinson, leader of the Birmingham City Council, and chairman of the campaign for Labour Victory. It includes Mr Paul Gouney, the Grimsby Labour agent.

Mr Thomas Ellis, the Labour MP for Wrexham, yesterday defied his constituency party's demand that he resign. He stated that he would continue *as MP for the "time being"*—a clear enough hint that he will resign the Labour whip and join a new breakaway party whenever it is formed.

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Ronald Butt column, page 14

Threat of water men's action increases after rejection of 10%

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Union leaders in the water industry yesterday embarked on the final step towards sanctioning a campaign of industrial action after rejecting the employers' new 10 per cent offer.

With both sides in the industry clearly alarmed at the serious consequences of strikes by the 32,000 water and sewerage workers in England and Wales, the unions are to ask their members to reaffirm their determination to take industrial action.

The employers' previous 7.9 per cent offer was overwhelmingly rejected by the manual workers who made clear their desire to take action. A large body of the workers demanded an all-out national strike. The four unions in the industry are to hold meetings at branch and regional levels over the next three weeks to gauge the feelings on the new offer.

Union negotiators were confident that 10 per cent would be rejected as it did not meet their revised target of an increase similar to the 13 per cent 10-month agreement won by the miners. The employers, on the other hand, thought that industrial action was now less likely.

The employers hinted strongly that if they felt the consultation exercise mounted by the unions was unlikely to be representative of the feelings of all workers in the industry, they would hold a secret postal ballot over the heads of the unions. They have already set in train arrangements for writing to each worker urging acceptance of the offer, which would increase average weekly earnings from £108.49 to £119.41.

Mr Edmund Newall, chief union negotiator and national officer of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, said the consultation "will not be a sham exercise. It was totally satisfactory last time and I have no doubt that it will be satisfactory this time. I would question the value of the employers holding a ballot. They may not get the answer they are looking for."

Mr Newell met negotiators from the National Union of Public Employees, the Transport and General Workers' Union and the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers, before reporting to the union side of the industry's negotiating body, which unanimously rejected the offer.

The unions' immediate inclination after deciding that the offer was not acceptable was apparently to give notice of strike action, but it was thought necessary to be seen to be absolutely scrupulous in consulting their members

Sir Robert Marshall, chairman of the National Water Council, said the offer was appropriate in view of the fact that water charges are expected to rise this year by between 15 and 30 per cent. The cost of the 10 per cent offer represents a 0.8 per cent increase on the rates.

He said the council's previous offer had been increased because of the "very great certainty of industrial action if we did not make any improvements in the offer".

Asked whether industrial action might produce an improvement on the 10 per cent offer, Sir Robert said: "If the unions engage in industrial action I think it would be serious and deplorable and if that action is fully supported there would be a grave situation in the country. You know what happens when there is a grave situation in the country; negotiations are often forced on people."

Leading article, page 15

PLP clash over chairman's ruling

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Another constitutionel dispute broke out among Labour MPs last night over a ruling given by Mr Frederick Willey, MP for Sunderland, North, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, after it rejected a move to alter the standing orders.

The move would have meant that the Cabinet of a future Labour Government would be elected by the PLP, not appointed on the personal choice of the Labour Prime Minister.

The debate arose on a motion proposed by Mr Mike Thomas (Newcastle upon Tyne, East), Mr Phillip Whitehead (Derby, North) and Mr Giles Radice (Chester-le-Street), who are in the centre-right of the party, suggesting that the PLP should accept the principle of election of Cabinet members, and should instruct a working party to bring forward proposal

That, in effect, forestalled a later motion on the agenda in the name of Mr Wedgwood Benn, (Bristol, South East) and Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton), stating categorically that "the Cabinet shall be elected each session by the PLP on the same basis as the Parliamentary Committee [the Shadow Cabinet] is now elected in Opposition".

After debate, the first motion was defeated by 63 votes to 30 and Mr Willey ruled that the rest of the amendments on the agenda on that topic must fall.

Left wingers protested that that did not allow proper debate, and that Mr Benn's motion should be taken.

Mr Willey rejected their appeals and closed the meeting. Afterwards, the dispute continued in the corridors. MPs said later that there had been a bitter argument between Mr Benn and Mr John Smith, Labour's spokesman on trade.

Optimism by Labour members facing legal battle over 'dirty jobs' pay rise decision

Eighty protesters delay start of crucial Camden meeting

By Christopher Warman
and Nicholas Timmins

Labour members of Camden Council, London, held a crucial meeting last night to decide their response to the threat that they may face a personal surcharge of thousands of pounds for approving a pay settlement to manual workers in the "dirty jobs" dispute in 1979.

The 33 councillors, 28 of whom were involved with the decision, considered a package of measures drawn up by the leadership, under Mr Roy Shaw, with advice from the council's officers, designed to keep them within the law.

They believe they have a good chance of winning the legal battle over whether they acted unreasonably in law, as the district auditor says, but their actions on other matters could have a vital bearing on the decision of the High Court.

Although many of the Labour councillors voted against the pay settlement, they did not believe it was unreasonable or unlawful and had not been advised by their officers of the possibility.

Mr John Mills, deputy leader, said last night: "At no stage were we told it was likely to be illegal. When the settlement was finally made nationally, it was lower than we thought, and the Clegg awards did not help the lower paid, so we were left stranded."

Mr Mills is a businessman and could probably find the money to pay the surcharge, if necessary. But he hopes to avoid it and is concerned for those members who could not afford it, and would risk bankruptcy.

Of the 28 involved, four are lawyers, who would immediately be unable to practice if declared bankrupt.

Mr Ivor Walker, a solicitor, who voted against the supplement at the group meeting, but is nevertheless involved, believed they would win, largely because they had acted reasonably in all the circumstances, and because it had not occurred to the officers that their action might be unlawful.

If the worst happened, and he was made bankrupt, he would have to stop practising.

The councillors have a wide range of jobs, from lecturer to postman and bus driver to full-time union official, and one or two full-time local government representatives.

Most would have to go bankrupt, and such a move would affect the few single owner-occupiers who are members. Mr Walker said he would be all right because he had a joint tenancy with his wife, but the single members might find their furniture and television seized.

Mr Nicholas Bosanquet, a lecturer in economics at the City University, said that if there was a surcharge he would have to go bankrupt. "But I would be better off than some, because I have tenure in my post."

He, like all the other members, is seriously considering what must be done. "We must be seen to act reasonably on the matters under consideration."

The meeting last night was delayed at its start when about 80 people walked into the council chamber at Camden Town Hall and refused to leave until their protests were heard.

Mr David Eggmore, branch secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, speaking for all the unions, told the Labour group it should fight the cuts the Government was imposing through the district auditor.

He said that if the cuts, including 600 jobs in the building department, were made there would be a call for industrial action.

Outside the meeting Mr Eggmore said the district auditor's report was a threat to all councils. "The last vestiges of independent local governments are at stake".

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Listening to speakers at a rally called by council workers of the London borough of Lambeth yesterday are Mr Wedgwood Benn, Mr Ted Knight, the Labour council leader, and Miss Joan Maynard, MP for Sheffield, Brightside. Nearly all the council's 5,000 manual workers and half the 5,000 white collar workers are taking part in a week of action to protest against local government spending cuts. The rally yesterday followed a march through the borough.

Warning to closed shop council

Members of the Labour-controlled Sandwell Council, West Midlands, which operates a closed shop agreement, may themselves have to pay compensation if they go ahead with the dismissal of Miss Joanna Harris, who is not a trade unionist.

That warning was given last night by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment.

The compensation could be as much as £17,000, and in a letter to Mr Norris McWhirter, deputy chairman of The Freedom Association, which is supporting Miss Harris, a £70-a-week poultry inspector, Mr Prior says: "I would encourage her to take her case to an industrial tribunal.

"Of course the councillors responsible for taking the decisions in this case are not subject to the usual constraints on employers: it is the Sandwell ratepayers and not the councillors, who will have to meet the cost of compensation paid to anyone who is unfairly dismissed.

"But if a council is acting unlawfully and incurs expenditure as a consequence, the District Auditor may well decide to investigate and the result could be that a court orders those responsible to repay the expenditure from their own resources."

A number of reports had seriously misrepresented the legal position. "It is quite clear that what Sandwell are proposing is unlawful under the terms of our recent Employment Act."

Reports of call-up are denied

By Our Political Staff

The Government yesterday firmly denied reports that it was considering some kind of conscription for young unemployed people.

Mr Alexander Lyon, Labour MP for York, a former Minister of State at the Home Office, asked Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, what consideration was being given to a proposal that young people on the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP) should receive some military training in uniform.

In a written answer, Mr Prior said that no proposal on those lines had been submitted to the Manpower Services Commission, which administered the Youth Opportunities Programme.

"However", he added, "the Ministry of Defence, which has been a sponsor under the YOP since 1978, is considering what further help it might offer unemployed young people, and we are in discussion with them about this."

Later it was made plain in Whitehall that there was no question of conscripting young people into military service.

The Government and defence chiefs believe that the strength of the armed forces can be adequately maintained under the present system of voluntary recruitment.

Many young people are already employed, under the YOP, in clerical and other civilian-type jobs in the Royal Ordnance factories and research and development establishment.

Split over tactics signals the end of Campaign for Labour Victory

By Ian Bradley

The organizers of the right-wing Campaign for Labour Victory divided last night over whether they should support the new Council for Social Democracy or continue to fight within the Labour Party.

At a meeting of the 22-member steering committee it was decided that the 5,000 supporters of the campaign in the country should be given the opportunity to say which option they prefer.

The split over tactics at last night's meeting, which was attended by four MPs, effectively means the end of the campaign which has fought within the Labour Party against constitutional and policy changes proposed by the left.

Mr Alec McGivan, organizing secretary for the last three and a half years, said: "It was a meeting where we realized we had come to the parting of the ways.

"It is possible that those people who want to continue within the Labour Party will keep the campaign going in some form, but my view is that the majority of our supporters will want to back the new council

Mr McGivan has himself resigned from the campaign and will be working full-time for the council from today.

For the past six months the campaign has operated from rented rooms in Highbury, north London.

Liverpool partnership: A local Liberal party yesterday tried to form a partnership with rebel Labour MPs (the Press Association reports). Leaders of the Edge Hill constituency party, Liverpool, want to change its name to the Edge Hill Liberal and Social Democratic Association.

The association's 2,000 members will vote today on the move. If they approve it, Liberals will put up candidates for the Merseyside County Council elections in May under a Liberal Democratic banner.

Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for the constituency, has pledged his support for the plan and spoken of a possible electoral alliance with Mr Richard Crawshaw, the Labour member for the neighbouring constituency of Toxteth.

Healey battle pledge: Mr Denis Healey, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the European Management Forum symposium in Davos yesterday he would "fight, fight and fight again" for Labour Party policies supported by the electorate (our Geneva Correspondent writes).

He believed there was overwhelming backing for the traditional party and hoped that the breakaway social democrat party would not be set up.

Liberals angry at Mr Powell's committee place

By Our Political Staff

Liberal MPs protested at the Commons last night about the decision of the Committee of Selection to include Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, in the standing committee which will examine the details of the Nationality Bill.

They had argued for the inclusion of Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edge Hill, their spokesman on home affairs and race relations.

The Committee of Selection is advised by the whips of the two main parties about the choice of MPs for standing committees. The minor parties are not represented on the committee.

Mr Alan Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed and Liberal Chief Whip, said last night: "The Labour whips have used their monopoly to place Mr Powell on the committee instead of accepting our nominee, Mr Alton."

ILEA to stay, Mr Carlisle says

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The Inner London Education Authority is to be retained, but the Government will seek to introduce extra financial controls if the authority "systematically abuses the rating system by unchecked extravagance", Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the Commons yesterday.

The Government was considering what further measures it would take to meet that situation, he added. It is understood that those measures would apply to any other authority the Government considered to be profligate.

The Government's public expenditure plans required local authority current expenditure on education in England to go down by about 7 per cent in real terms between 1978-79 and 1981-82, Mr Carlisle said.

However, the ILEA was apparently planning to spend next year almost as much in real terms as it did in 1978-79, even though the number of its pupils would fall by about 13 per cent over the same period, the minister added.

The authority already spent much more money per pupil than any other English authority without achieving a satisfactory performance in many of its schools.

"The long-term retention of the single education authority for inner London is justified only if the authority shows that it can give the children and students of inner London a good service in all phases of education at an acceptable cost.

It is up to the ILEA to put its house in order", he said.

The weight of educational opinion, including the voluntary bodies and the churches, was that the difficulties of inner London called for a single authority of adequate size and with adequate resources to administer its education service, and that responsibility for schools should not be separated from the rest of education.

Civil service intake: More than half of last year's external recruits as administration trainees in the Civil Service came from independent or direct-grant schools and only one in ten had a degree in science or technology, Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for the Civil Service, said in a written parliamentary reply yesterday.

New Forest oil search opposed

The Council for the Protection of Rural England yesterday urged the Government to refuse permission for Shell UK Ltd to drill for oil near Lyndhurst, in the New Forest.

Mr Robin Grove-White, the council's director, said the forest was an area of exceptional natural beauty, and it was hard to conceive circumstances in which exploitation of an oil find could be acceptable.

Thief in video case is jailed

Stephen Owens, aged 23, the fourth man charged with the video-recorded theft of rings valued at £31,000 at a jeweller's shop at Bridlington, Humberside, was given a three-year prison sentence at Beverley Crown Court yesterday. He comes from Cromer Way, Halewood, Liverpool.

Border TV blackout

Border Television went off the air last night. The Association of Cinematograph and Television and Allied Technicians said a staff shortage in the engineering section caused the blackout.

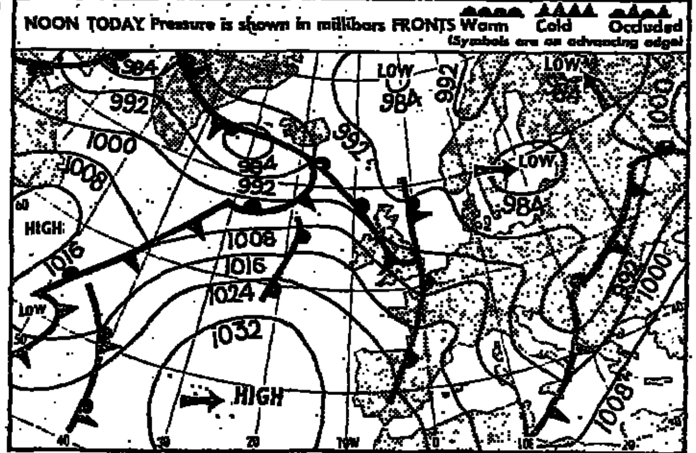
Car goes over cliff

A driver whose car went over a 250 ft cliff at Portland, Dorset, was said to be in a reasonable condition in hospital last night. He has facial and spinal injuries.

3.000 seek 300 jobs

Three thousand people have applied for 300 jobs at a new superstore in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

Weather forecast and recordings



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 7.33 am Sun sets: 4.57 pm
Moon rises: 7.58 am Moon sets: 5.45 pm
First quarter: February 11.
Lighting up: 5.27 pm to 7.01 am.
High water: London Bridge, 1.58 am, 7.1m; 2.23 pm, 7.2m. Avonmouth, 7.32 am, 13.3m; 7.52 pm, 13.2m. Dover, 11.08 am, 6.5m; 11.34 pm, 6.7m. Hull, 6.36 am, 7.2m; 6.48 pm, 7.5m. Liverpool, 11.34 am, 9.4m; 11.57 pm, 9.2m. 1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

Frontal troughs will move E across most parts of the United Kingdom.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S and E England, East Anglia, Midlands (E): Dry and in places bright at first, cloud thickening with some rain and perhaps sleet for a time; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 6° or 7°C (43° to 45°F).

Midlands (W), Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Mostly cloudy, a little rain or drizzle at times, hill fog, some sheltered areas mostly dry; wind W or NW, moderate or fresh; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW and NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, Northern Ireland: Cloudy, rain or drizzle, hill fog; wind W or NW, fresh or strong; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

Central N and NE England, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Mostly cloudy, snow turning to rain with some moderate falls on higher ground. A drier, brighter period likely in afternoon but further rain later; wind W, veering NW, moderate; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney: Mostly cloudy, sleet or snow at times turning to rain at lower levels later, some brighter spells; wind SW veering NW, moderate; max temp 5°C (41°F) after frost.

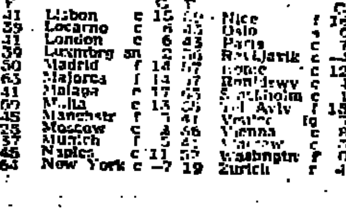
Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E), St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind W or NW, mainly strong, occasionally gale; sea mainly rough.

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Changeable and windy. Rain in most places will be followed by brighter showery weather. Further rain is expected in the W later. Near normal temperatures.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 7°C (45°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5°C (41°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 70 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.2 hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1004.1 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.



		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Algiers	f	18	64	Cologne	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Lisbon	c	15	[illegible]	Nice	f	16	61
Amsterdm	c	4	39	Copenhgn	c	4	39	Locarno	c	6	43	Oslo	s	0	32
Athens	s	14	57	Dublin	s	5	41	London	c	6	43	Paris	c	7	45
Barcelona	c	14	57	Edinburgh	s	4	39	Luxmbrg	sn	2	36	Reykjavik	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Belfast	f	5	41	Florence	r	10	50	Madrid	f	14	57	Rome	c	12	54
Berlin	c	1	34	Funchal	f	17	63	Majorca	f	14	57	Rotterdam	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bermuda	f	16	61	Geneva	r	5	41	Malaga	r	17	63	Stockholm	c	1	34
Biarritz	c	10	50	Gibraltar	f	15	59	Malta	c	13	55	Tel Aviv	f	15	59
Birmnghm	c	5	41	Guernsey	s	7	45	Manchstr	f	5	41	Venice	fg	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bristol	f	6	43	Helsinki	c	−4	25	Moscow	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vienna	c	8	46
Brussels	c	4	39	Innsbruck	c	3	37	Munich	f	5	41	Warsaw	c	[illegible]	[illegible]
Budapest	r	5	41	Jersey	f	7	45	Naples	c	11	52	Washngtn	f	0	32
Cardiff	s	5	41	L Palmas	f	18	64	New York	c	−7	19	Zurich	f	4	39

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 30; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran IR 130; Iraq ID 0.300; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 33; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.5; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.00; Tunisia Din .450; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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Verdicts of justifiable homicide on terrorists

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Verdicts of justifiable homicide were returned by a jury at Westminster Coroner's Court yesterday on the five terrorists killed by men of the Special Air Service Regiment at the Iranian Embassy siege last year.

The jury took almost an hour to reach its verdicts after Dr Paul Knapman, the coroner, told them they had the choice of justifiable homicide, unlawful killing, an open verdict or death by misadventure.

When they returned to court it was thought that the delay might mean they had failed to reach a unanimous decision or required further direction. The coroner said: "I am a little surprised it has taken you so long".

He began to go through the choice of verdicts again and added: "I mentioned unlawful killing, but I think you must consider the implications to this country if the verdicts are recorded, if soldiers are sent in to do a specific job".

In the case of open verdicts, he said they "left things up in the air and open to a little bit of speculation". He broached the question of majority verdicts but the foreman of the jury said that a unanimous verdict had been reached in every case and announced that it was justifiable homicide.

The verdicts are likely to be the last of their kind returned in Britain. A month after the siege last May new coroners' rules came into force which offer a comparable verdict of lawful killing. The new rules did not apply because the inquest opened originally on May 7 and was adjourned until Fowzi Nejad, a sixth terrorist, had been tried. Last month he was sentenced at the Central Criminal Court to life imprisonment.

Dr Knapman, in his summing-up, told the nine jurors that the evidence of the SAS men read in court was taken the day after the siege ended. "You may feel the recollection of some of the hostages has been embellished or misinterpreted with the passage of time", he said.

The statements they gave the police were short, and of the four who gave evidence in the trial of Mr Nejad as things turned out only one actually saw one terrorist shot. That, Dr Knapman said, would not be the impression which may have been deduced from press reports.

One of the witnesses Mr Abbas Fallahi, a hostage, had said that a soldier had shot at close range a terrorist called Shia. Dr Knapman said: "I found his evidence was confused and I think there was a certain amount of language difficulty".

Two expert witnesses had said that Shia was shot from between 18 inches and 24 inches and not in the position suggested by Mr Fallahi. Dr Knapman said: "One must ask, is it particularly important how far away the muzzle was? The question is, did the soldier reasonably think this terrorist was a threat to him?"

In overall terms, Dr Knapman added, the jury had been told the SAS went into action against men with a variety of weapons who had killed once, had made threats, and might have booby-trapped the building or planned to meet an attack by blowing up the building.

"You will", he told the jury "have to consider whether the SAS acted reasonably in all the circumstances".

The terrorists in most cases *died of multiple injuries* but the SAS used weapons which fired 10 rounds a second. Dr Knapman said: "They would not know if they had concealed weapons or grenades. Imagine peering through the smoke and seeing the enemy, and ask yourselves whether it is reasonable to shoot first and ask questions afterwards. The SAS took no chances".

Looking at the possible verdicts, Dr Knapman said justifiable homicide meant using such force as is reasonable in the circumstances in the prevention of a crime. The jury had to consider whether force had been necessary and was the force in proportion to the evil to be avoided.

A senior policeman had described to the jury how one hostage had been killed and "these desperate men had threatened to kill a hostage and blow up the embassy if anyone attacked". Dr Knapman said: "You may feel that answers these two questions".

In the case of unlawful killing, such a verdict meant the SAS had acted unreasonably. The coroner said he mentioned the verdict for the sake of completeness but if there had been any evidence of murder or manslaughter by the SAS the inquest would have been halted and papers sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

He told the jury: "You will notice I have not done so. I suspect you will not have to give this particular verdict too much consideration".

A verdict of misadventure represented a situation where in that case the soldiers had not intended to kill the terrorists who were caught in cross-fire. From the evidence it seemed the soldiers were aiming at them.

An open verdict indicated the jury felt there was insufficient evidence to record any other verdict.

The verdicts were recorded on the deaths of Salim, or Awn Ali *Mohammed; Faisal, or Shakir* Abdullah Fadhill; Shia, or Shakir Sultan Said; Abbas, or Samir Thamir Mohammed Hussein, and Makki, or Makki Hanoun Ali. During the inquest the police said those were the names of the dead men on their visa applications from Iraq and are thought to have been false.

After the inquest Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Dellow, who was in charge of the police at the siege, said similar situations would be dealt with on their merits. The use of the SAS had not represented a change in police strategy.

More boats stay in port in protest over fishing crisis

Ministers order price inquiry as owners attack imports

By Hugh Clayton

Ministers yesterday ordered an investigation of fish prices and marketing as protests by boat owners against being undercut by cheap imports spread from Scotland to England.

The investigation will be conducted by agricultural marketing advisers who will report to Mr Peter Walker, Minister of *Agriculture, Fisheries and Food*. He wants to know why low prices at ports are not reflected in chip shops and on fishmongers' slabs.

Industry leaders told him yesterday that they believed that the prices of Dutch fish were being held down by misuse of an EEC subsidy system. Prices at ports for some whole white fish fell to 10p a pound or less in some ports yesterday while shop prices for fillets and cuts of the same varieties were more than £1 a pound.

Mr Walker said: "It would be nice if the reduction was reflected in the price in the shops. In the past there has been a remarkable consistency in the price on the slab which does not reflect the price on landing".

The last official investigation of fish prices, published in 1976, showed that "the price per pound that the customer pays is on average four times *the price per pound that the* fisherman receives. The total *cost of distribution at all stages* represents nearly one half of the price the housewife pays for fish compared with about a quarter in the case of meat."

Mr Walker said that fishermen had told him that fish bought by EEC agencies in Holland for use as fertiliser or animal feed were probably being sent to Britain. "If that is so it is a totally illegal and wrong practice."

But Mr Gerrit Braks, Dutch Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, later denied before meeting Mr Walker that EEC *rules were being broken* in his country's ports. "This is completely unknown to us. I think our distribution system is quite efficient, and that is the basis of our relatively strong export system in fish."

He denied allegations by British skippers that his Government paid a fuel subsidy worth about 15p a gallon to Dutch boat owners.

Mr Nigel Atkins, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermens' Organizations, said after the meeting: "I came out very despondent indeed. There is a rising groundswell of intense bitterness in the ports at the moment".

His organization's action committee would meet tomorrow to consider the need for intensifying the present protest, in which fishermen are refusing to put to sea.

He admitted that allegations about the misuse of the EEC system in Holland were "purely anecdotal, nothing else".

The EEC support system for fish operates throughout the Community and is the same as that for fruit and vegetables. The prices at which fish are bought by EEC agencies depend on quality and variety. In Britain they are about 5p a pound for mackerel and 10p to 15p a pound for cod and plaice.

Mr Gilbert Buchan, chairman of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, said before a meeting with Scottish Office ministers yesterday that the question of cut-price imports overshadowed all others, including bargaining about an EEC fish policy which is to resume on Monday.

Processing "at risk": As more fishermen in north-east Scotland refused to work yesterday in protest against the crisis in the industry, the manager of a fish factory in Fraserburgh complained that the men had picked the wrong target and were threatening the local processing industry (Ronald Faux writes from Peterhead).

Mr Thomas Bruce, manager of the Maefisheries plant, said that if the stoppage went on he would have to start laying off some of the 600 employees next week. If it continued beyond then the factory might have to close.

"Ninety-eight per cent of the white fish used here comes from local sources and other Scottish ports. I am sympathetic towards the fishermen but I feel they have picked the wrong target."

The action of the fishermen had by last night led to more *than 400 boats* being tied up as a protest against cheap imports and because the EEC common fisheries policy has still not been resolved.

Ferries sail again after Thoresen pay deal

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

A war of words broke out last night between the seamen's union and shipping employers over a pay deal agreed by Townsend Thoresen covering 250 men who crew two passenger ferries operating from Southampton.

The National Union of Seamen said the deal was worth slightly more than 12 per cent and if *compared directly with the offer* made by the General Council of British Shipping, and rejected by the union, was the equivalent of a 14.3 per cent increase.

An employers' spokesman countered that this was "a fraudulent calculation" and said that the deal represented a straight 12 per cent increase on earnings. Under the agreement the pay of an able seaman based on a 40-hour week with 20 hours of overtime, will rise from £170.68 to £191.18.

A statement from the employers said it "welcomed this settlement which is a straight copper-bottomed 12 per cent deal which is well within our guidelines". Townsend Thoresen is the second company to negotiate a separate deal with the union. The first was Canadian Pacific.

The two ships covered by the agreement are the Viking Valiant and the Viking Venturer, which last night resumed their normal cross-channel services after being blacked by the *union since January 20. The* company's services into Portsmouth will also return to normal.

The union said last night that its calculation of the worth of the Townsend Thoresen deal was based on a comparison with the national offer made by the employers on a 70-hour week.

The employers said that the deal indicated the desire of seamen to settle at the 12 per cent level.

About 200 ships out of a British merchant fleet of 1,200 vessels are idle.

All Sealink sailings from Holyhead to Dun Laoghaire in the Irish Republic are still suspended.

Mr and Mrs Goodall and their daughter Sharon, aged nine, ousted by Mrs Lawrence.

Court order sought over widow's home

From Our Correspondent
Guildford

A repossession order was being sought yesterday against Mrs Jean Lawrence, aged 42, a widow who has become a squatter in her own home.

The move was made on behalf of her former tenants, Mr David Goodall and his wife Sylvia, who rented the house for three months but refused to move out when their lease expired.

Mrs Lawrence changed the locks on the house in Melrose Walk, Basingstoke, Hampshire, while they were out and took up residence again.

Mr Paul Chong, the solicitor acting for the Goodall family, said: "The obvious solution will be for Mrs Lawrence to vacate the premises so that my clients can move back in."

"We feel that Mrs Lawrence has taken the law into her own hands at this stage and, although one feels sympathy for the landlord, she cannot break the law.

Mrs Lawrence said: "The *law is an ass. This just shows* what a mess the Rent Act is. I know it was brought in to protect tenants, but when you have got a situation like this where I can be evicted from my own home, then it is too much."

Mr Goodall said that to be rehoused by Basingstoke council he had to be legally evicted. That was the only reason for the legal action.

Mr Dennis Hudson, the council's director of legal services, said: "We are investigating a complaint of harassment against Mrs Lawrence.

"*The matter has been deferred for a fortnight* to see the outcome of civil action between the two parties concerned."

Top fashion designers to go out of business

By Frances Gibb

Two more leading British fashion designers with international reputations, Ossie Clark and Thea Porter, are going out of business.

They have fallen victim to the textile trade's worst recession since the war just a few months after John Bates, one of the best-known names in British fashion, opted for voluntary liquidation.

Of the five big London fashion designers only two, Jean Muir and Zandra Rhodes, have survived at full strength into 1981. Apart from John Bates, Bill Gibbs and Yuki have both had business difficulties.

Yesterday Mr Noel van den Berg of MAK Industries, which became Ossie Clark's backers in April last year, said cash difficulties had made it impossible to continue. "It is a tragedy because orders were coming in well and the profit margins were good," he said.

About 85 per cent of Ossie Clark's sales were on the Continent, particularly to German women. Debts of his company are expected to total £200,000 and his contract is for sale.

Mr van den Berg estimated the cost to MAK Industries at £100,000. "We are walking out of ths liquidation with nothing. I do not want anyone to think there is a golden lining to our pockets."

The Porter, who opened her premises in Greek Street, Soho, 20 years ago when the area was best known for its continental restaurants and grocers' shops, leaves debts of about £100,000.

Mr Keith Goodman, a chartered accountant who has been nominated as liquidator, said yesterday: "The world's elegant women are not prepared to go to a place surrounded by sex shops and strip clubs and populated by pimps and prostitutes".

Creditors of the companies for which the designers worked *will meet on February* 19 at Leonard, Curtis and Co, chartered accountants, who have been instructed to take steps ta put them into liquidation.

Mr Murdoch seeks 9% editorial staff cuts

By Dan van der Vat

Reductions of about 9 per cent in the editorial staffs of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* were sought yesterday by representatives of Mr Rupert Murdoch at meetings with officials of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ).

Mr Murdoch is seeking agreement on demanning, disputes procedure and new technology with all seven main unions at Times Newspapers by February 12 as a precondition for taking over the company as a going concern

If the proposal goes through, *The Times* will lose 25 journalists, of about 280, and *The Sunday Times* 15, of about 175, by voluntary redundancy in the first instance. If the number of volunteers acceptable to the present editors falls short of the required total, News International, Mr Murdoch's company, will seek to achieve the targets by compulsory redundancies.

Although *The Times* NUJ chapel also represents the vast majority of the journalists on the three supplements, numbering about fifty, no proposals were made about reductions

The father (chairman) of *The Times* chapel, Mr Paul Routledge, the paper's labour editor, said last night after a chapel committee meeting: "We are examining the proposals, and there is to be another meeting with News International on Sunday. The full chapel will then meet on Tuesday

The Sunday Times chapel met last night to consider its own response and to discuss its plans to challenge the Government's refusal to refer Mr Murdoch's takeover bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in the High Court.

Both chapels are expected to oppose any compulsory redundancies.

Takeover proposal: A House of Commons motion tabled yesterday by Mr Jack Aspinwall, Conservative MP for Kingswood, expresses concern at the proposed takeover of the *Bristol Evening Post* newspaper group by Associated Newspapers, owners of the *Daily Mail* (the Press Association reports). *The motion calls for the* bid to be referred to the monopolies commission.

"Sunday Times" moves: The NUJ chapel of *The Sunday Times* said last night that it rejected the idea of a wage freeze and a disputes procedure which involved a penalty clause; it was seeking further clarification on the issue of redundancies (Martin Huckerby writes).

Chapel officials will meet Mr Murdoch's representatives again on Saturday, but the chapel will not make any decisions on the redundancy demands until a meeting next Tuesday.

The chapel has received a report from its accountants which indicates that *The Sunday Times* is an economic and going concern, and thus challenges the basis of the Government's refusal to refer the sale to the monopolies commission.

So the chapel's legal advisers will decide tomorrow, on the basis of the accountants' report and an examination of the legal *position, whether the chapel* should proceed with its case in the courts. If the legal advisers decide in favour, chapel officials will issue the writ on Monday.

Conflict over costs of Concorde

By Kenneth Owen

The British and French Governments are finding it difficult to agree the final balance of costs for the development, production and support of the Concorde supersonic airliner.

Civil servants on each side have produced conflicting estimates of the imbalance, and arguments over how much is owed, and by whom, are continuing.

These points emerged in evidence to the Commons Industry and Trade Committee yesterday. The committee went into private session to question Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State at the Department of Industry.

Studies by officials were commissioned in September, 1979, by British and French ministers, and the resulting joint report is being studied by the governments.

Mr Tebbit discussed the matter recently with the French Minister of Transport and, he told the committee yesterday, it was possible they would meet again soon.

A memorandum from the department notes that for 1980-83 Britain's expenditure on Concorde support is forecast to be "considerably higher" than the French expenditure and says "equitable arrangements will therefore need to be found".

Answering a question from the committee, Mr Tebbit described the initial Concorde agreement as not as precise as *it could have been.*

The cost of continuing Concorde support from January 1, 1981, to March 31, 1982, was about £27m.

Ford to meet union team next week over strike

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Ford management is to meet the company's full national union negotiating team on Tuesday in an attempt to end the strike by 440 of the company's lorry drivers.

The Ford national joint negotiating committee, which rarely meets over a dispute involving only a small sector of the company's workforce of 57,000, will hold the talks at the union's request.

Mr Ronald Todd, the Transport and General Workers' Union chief negotiator at Ford gave *a warning that if a* regional request was made for official backing for the dispute, which by last night had led to 19,000 employees being laid off, he would recommend its endorsement.

The dispute arises from the cut in international trips by the company's external lorry drivers. It has led to Fiesta and Cortina production being halted at Dagenham and commercial vehicle production at Southampton and Langley, near Slough. *Yesterday* production at the Basildon tractor plant was also halted.

The speed with which the week-old dispute has affected production has been increased by effective picketing of key company plants by the lorry *drivers. They have revived* protests against the ending last year of terms that provided for five foreign trips a week for the lorry drivers.

Longbridge mass meeting likely to reject strike

From Clifford Webb
Birmingham

A mass meeting tomorrow of all 15,000 employees at BL's Longbridge car plant, Birmingham, is expected to end the six-week campaign by the unions to force the company to reinstate eight men dismissed for allegedly leading an unruly mob.

Senior shop stewards, members of the works committee, are expected to call for an all-out strike after their setback on Tuesday when 200 shop stewards representing all sections of the plant rejected the committee's plan for a series of lightning strikes.

The indications are that the strike call will also be rejected and that it is being put to the meeting only because Mr Jack Adams, convener and leader of the works committee, was left with no alternative after Tuesday's stormy session with shop stewards.

Six development corporations to end by 1990

By Our Planning Reporter

The development corporations responsible for the third, and presumably the last, "generation" of new towns would be wound up by 1990, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, told the Commons yesterday.

The target dates for Northampton and Central Lancashire were the end of 1984 and the end of 1985 respectively, when their populations would be about 170,000 and 270,000.

Other population forecasts for the late 1980s were: Milton Keynes, 150,000; Peterborough, 150,000; Telford, 130,000 and Warrington, 160,000.

In all six towns the corporations would be expected to rely largely on private investment.

Lord Campbell of Eskan, chairman of Milton Keynes Development Corporation, said last night: "In the light of the minister's statement, we can get on with reasonable confidence with the building of Milton Keynes."

In brief

Homes cleared as gas escapes

Two workers were taken to hospital and homes and shops cleared yesterday when ammonia gas seaped from a storage tank at the Unigate bottling plant in Vale Road, Sutton, south London.

The two men overcome by fumes were treated at St Helier Hospital, Carshalton. The gas escaped after pressure blew a safety valve.

Two saved in air crash

Two American Air Force *men* parachuted to safety just before an F-111 jet fighter crashed in flames, narrowly missing houses, at East Wretham, Norfolk, yesterday.

'Express' contract

Odhams (Watford) has been awarded a £10m a year contract to print about three million copies a week of the *Sunday Express* colour supplement. It is scheduled to appear in the spring.

Show parking fees end

Car parking charges at the Royal Show at Kenilworth, Warwickshire, in July are to be dropped to improve traffic flow. Last year rain made many car parks quagmires, creating long traffic jams.

BMA blacklist avoided

The British Medical Association has decided not to blacklist Oxfordshire Area Health Authority after confirmation that it will follow nationally agreed terms and conditions of service.

Murder charge

Ian Bealey, aged 31, a chargehand, of Okehampton Road, Exeter, was charged last night with the murder of Miss Virginia Maunder, aged 20. He will appear before Exeter magistrates today.

Cabinet set to kill information Bill

By Peter Hennessy

There were signs at Westminster last night that the Government intends to mobilize its "payroll vote" of ministers *and their parliamentary private* secretaries to kill the private member's Freedom of Information Bill, to be debated in the Commons tomorrow.

The Bill would establish a public right of access to official documents, subject to certain exemptions, reduce the 30-year rule for Cabinet papers to 10 years, and allow for disputed cases to be settled in the High Court.

Because it is a private member's motion, only a one-line whip has been placed on Conservative MPs, but pressure has been put on Tories likely to vote for a second reading. Conservative whips, reflecting the line the Government will take, have argued that it will be costly in public expenditure and that the provision for judicial review will diminish the sovereignty of Parliament.

The bill, drafted by the now defunct Outer Circle Policy Unit, is being sponsored by Mr Frank Hooley, Labour MP for Sheffield, Heeley. Its supporters are confident that 100 MPs will be present tomorrow to prevent the Government simply "talking the bill out", and to force a vote.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the Civil Service Department, will lead for the Government. The Cabinet's hostility to the principle of freedom of information was made clear within a month of the Thatcher Government taking office, and the Prime Minister has not felt the need to refer the matter to a cabinet committee.

Mr Hayhoe's brief is being prepared by a team of department officials led by Mr Jonathan Charkham. Miss Caroline Morrison, a veteran of the Callaghan Government's fight against an earlier version of the Outer Circle Bill in 1979, has been transferred from other work to assist him.

Widespread interdepartmental consultation in Whitehall on the impact of the Hooley Bill should it become law, the results of which will form the basis of Mr Hayhoe's brief, has been coordinated by a committee known as Establishment Officers' Meeting. It is due to convene today under the chairmanship of Mr Angus Fraser, a deputy secretary in the department.

Protest by pupils at school in punishment inquiry

The police were called in when pupils demonstrated yesterday at Litherland High School, Sefton, Merseyside, where the local education committee has ordered an inquiry into corporal punishment.

The pupils are said to have been punished by the slipper 1,800 times in 10 months. Litherland school has been named top of the "beating league table" by the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment.

Between 150 and 200 of the 1,030 pupils at the mixed *school refused to attend lessons* in the afternoon and marched round the playground chanting and calling for the dismissal of Mr Eric Colley, the headmaster.

One teacher said two pupils confronted Mr Colley in his office to demand his resignation. The teacher said windows were broken. Some pupils claimed that two teachers turned a hose on them.

The pupils, aged between 14 and 16, said they were taking action in support of Mr Alan Corkish, an English master, who faces a disciplinary hearing next week over the disclosure of details of the school's punishment figures,

Mr Corkish, aged 36, said he tried to calm the pupils after they banged on the window of his classroom. 'I was aware a few days ago that the kids were planning a demonstration, but I tried to dissuade them from taking part."

He said he told them they should make their feelings known to the school council.

The pupils had intended to hold a mass "picket" yesterday morning by arriving at the school gates but refusing to go into class. But they agreed to call that off

Mr Colley said last night it had been an interesting day at school. Merseyside police said officers found about 50 boys on the playing fields. "They were spoken to and told not to make a nuisance of themselves."

The children eventually dispersed

Kidney shortage 'like Wall Street crash'

The BBC's *Panorama* television programme on brain death had led to almost no kidneys being made available for transplants, a transplant surgeon said yesterday.

Mr Robert Johnson, a consultant of the renal unit at Manchester Royal Infirmary, said: "In terms of kidney transplantation, it is like the Wall Street crash."

The unit's records showed that for every four-month period between 1976 and 1980, between 20 and 27 transplants had been carried out,

But in the four months since the programme in October, there had been six. Mr Johnson said that the figures for the North-west were reflected in statistics for the whole of the country kept by the United Kingdom Transplant Centre

There had been several instances in the Manchester area of relatives refusing permission for the removal of the organs, and in none of the cases had the patient survived.

HOME NEWS

Police chief denies cafe raid in Bristol was case of overkill

From Lucy Hodges
Bristol

Mr Vincent Arkell, the police superintendent who ordered his men to withdraw from the St Paul's riot in Bristol last year, denied yesterday that the drink and drugs raid which started the violence was a case of police overkill.

He said at Bristol Crown Court that it was a perfectly normal operation and he had no idea why the explosion erupted. He did not know why such hatred should be shown to the police and he was not expecting any trouble that day. He had been nonplussed, he said.

Mr Arkell, who has now been transferred from the St Paul's district, was called as a witness for the prosecution on the second day of the trial of 11 men and a woman accused of riotous assembly on April 2, 1980. They have all pleaded not guilty.

Mr Arkell said that the raid was planned nine days earlier, on March 24. On that day he had met leaders of St Paul's, including Mr Francis Salandy, a community worker, who had a good idea of what went on in the district, he said. "They told me that the relationship between the police and the West Indian community could not have been better", he added.

On the afternoon of April 2, he briefed 39 officers for the raid on the Black and White café in Grosvenor Road, St Paul's. Twenty-four men were to go into the café and 14 were to be held in reserve. That was a small reserve force, he said, in reply to questions.

He told his officers it was to be a low-profile operation. There was to be no harassment and it was to be conducted in a lighthearted manner, he said.

He did not think it necessary to consult the police liaison officer on that occasion. He accepted the new police policy that those officers should always be consulted before such a raid.

He did not agree that it was inflammatory to remove in handcuffs Mr Betram Wilkes, the café's proprietor, who was arrested for possession of cannabis. He said he had not summoned him because this was not the normal procedure in such cases. He agreed that the raid could be seen by the youths as an attempt to close the café.

He said that after witnessing the initial violent scenes outside the café he had returned to Trinity Road police station, where he talked to Chief Supt Michael Challis. He went back to Grosvenor Road with more men to secure the release of officers barricaded in the café.

At that time missiles were being thrown at the café so he formed up his 20 officers three abreast and marched them down the road. He added: "We were subjected to a terrific barrage of missiles, bottles and stones, and officers were forced to take cover behind crates and dustbins".

Mr Rudy Narayan, another defence counsel, asked the superintendent whether he was trying to start a war by sealing off the road, handcuffing a man and marching his men in military formation. Mr Arkell denied that.

As the day progressed, the violent incidents got worse, Mr Arkell said. He was kicked in the stomach. There was a crowd of between 200 and 300 people in Sussex Place. There was a lot of noise, three police vehicles were set on fire and one youth shouted: "Let's get the bank".

The accused are: Paul Binns, aged 18, of Ashley Road; Linton Bdown, aged 23, of Halston Drive; Carlton Sharpe, aged 17, of Walton Street; Doretta Maye, aged 25, of Princess Street, Bedminster; Franklin Rapier, aged 36, of Carey Court; Sidney Clarke, aged 19, of Foster Street; Clifton Mighty, aged 17, of Campbell Street; Nicholas Walker, aged 19, of Grosvenor Road; Raymond Jones, aged 25, of Victoria Square; David Royal, aged 17, of Argyle Road; Andrew Minter, aged 17, of Ashley Road; and Ilve Edwards, aged 17, of Hartgill Close, all Bristol.

The trial continues today.

Gabrielle Wolfe, aged 19, from Seattle, United States, presenting a rose to the Prince of Wales on his arrival at the Institute of Indian Culture in west London yesterday.

Don't knows have it in poll on the EEC

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Britons are disastrously ignorant about the EEC, according to a national survey summarized in this month's issue of *Which?*, published today by the Consumers' Association.

The poll revealed that only one twentieth of the population could name their member of the European Parliament.

Fewer than half knew that The Netherlands was in the EEC. More than half of those questioned thought that Britain spent more on the EEC than it does on social security. In fact spending on social security is almost 17 times more than on the Community.

Mr Peter Goldman, director of the association, said yesterday that British knowledge of the EEC was "strong on myth, short on fact".

Almost six out of ten people in the survey agreed with the view that the EEC was an unnecessary and expensive bureaucracy.

Nearly half the sample thought expenditure on the EEC was the highest or second highest of nine areas they were asked to rank in order. It should have been seventh, but was put top of the table by more people than any other item.

Three quarters of the sample thought Britain's EEC contribution cost more than was spent on education, whereas education costs more than eight times as much.

The association's commentary on the findings says that adverse publicity has created "intense distrust and misapprehension" about the EEC.

Nearly nine out of ten people agreed with the true statement that the EEC had made food dearer, but a separate survey among *Which?* readers suggested that even that was overestimated.

Nearly half the readers thought the EEC was responsible for more than half the increase in food prices since entry. It is estimated to have caused only about one eighth of the increase.

Asked how they would vote in a referendum tomorrow, 58 per cent of those questioned in the national survey said they would vote to leave the EEC and 31 per cent said they would vote to stay in.

English faculty dispute to go before university's governing bodies

From John Witherow
Cambridge

The dispute within Cambridge University English faculty, at present bitterly divided with allegations of McCarthyite purges and threats to academic freedom, will be discussed by the university's general board of the faculties next week.

Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, the vice-chancellor, speaking after several hours of discussion in the Senate House on the state of the faculty, said it would be up to the 13-member board and the council of the senate to decide whether there should be an independent inquiry into the department.

The two committees are responsible, with the financial board, for governing the university.

Critics of the faculty called during the two days of discussion for an investigation into the administration of the department and the refusal of the appointments committee to upgrade Dr Colin MacCabe, an assistant lecturer, to a full-time post.

Dr MacCabe's supporters, who asked for the senate discussion, say his appointment was blocked by dons opposed to his structuralist approach to English literature and to a wide and progressive range of teaching methods.

To repeated questions developed into a fierce internal argument, with senior professors being voted off committees or resigning in protest.

Neither Sir Peter nor Mr R. E. Macpherson, the university registrary, could recall any previously inquiry into a university faculty after allegations of maladministration and misconduct.

"The problem has not been sudden and it would be a mistake to rush solutions", Sir Peter said. He admitted that he had some difficulty in disentangling the numerous factors which have led to the present dispute.

The discussion in the Senate House yesterday was attended by about 16 people. In contrast about six hundred students and dons crowded into the building for the debate on Tuesday when they heard fierce attacks on a wide range of targets from the faculty board to wet rot in the department offices. The faculty was accused of incompetence, maladministration, bias and having too many students and too few lectures.

One mathematics don yesterday felt that the English academics could deliver far more lectures than at present and that their "duties appeared light".

One of the more strident attacks, however, came from Mr Richard Clemmer, a postgraduate English student, who spoke about the faculty's "cavalier attitude towards the students".

The publicity surrounding the dispute, the worst in the university since F. R. Leavis clashed with senior dons in 1930, means that an enquiry is increasingly likely, not merely to find out what is wrong but also to silence the more vociferous critics and allay any suspicion of attempts to sweep the matter under the carpet.

Airline to cut Middle East fares by 29%

British Airways is to cut excursion fares to many destinations in the Middle East and the Gulf states by nearly 30 per cent.

Fares to those areas which are primarily concerned with business, have traditionally been high by North Atlantic standards. It has been cheaper, for instance, to fly from London to Australia than to the Gulf states, which are only a third of the distance.

The airline said yesterday that excursion fares to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut, Damascus and Kuwait will fall by 29 per cent, cutting the return excursion fare to Damascus, for example, from £416 to £295.

Fares to Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dahran, Doha, Dubai, Jeddah, Khartoum and Muscat will be cut by 27 per cent.

The cheap fares will operate from April 1 to June 30, and again from November. They will be available to business men with fixed business trips, and to people visiting relatives working in the Middle East.

British Caledonian is to cut advance purchase fares to some places in South America by more than £60 from February 18.

The reduced fares are available for travel before April 4, 1981.

The airline operates two flights a week to Venezuela and Peru, leaving Gatwick airport, London, on Thursdays and Saturdays and one flight a week between London and Ecuador on Thursdays. The same schedules will also apply when the airline introduces its summer programme on March 29.

British Caledonian will also introduce a new excursion fare of £450 between London and Dubai from April 1, a saving of more than £150 on the present fare.

The new fare, subject to final approval, is valid for stays up to 35 days.

Thatcher pledge on the arts

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

The Prime Minister has told a Commons committee that returning the office of arts and libraries to the care of the Department of Education and Science does not represent any downgrading of the arts.

In a letter to Mr Christopher Price, chairman of the education, science and arts committee, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said that Mr Paul Channon, who succeeded Mr Norman St John-Stevas as minister for the arts three weeks ago, would be able to consult her directly and have his own question time in the Commons.

She wrote: "I have made it clear from the first, that I am convinced of the need for the arts to have their own independent voice in government. I believe these arrangements will continue to ensure it."

The correspondence was released yesterday during a session of the committee, which is inquiring into public and private funding of the arts. When Mr Channon was questioned about his new responsibilities, he said the powers outlined in Mrs Thatcher's letter were wider than those of most of his predecessors.

Mr Patrick Cormack, Conservative MP for Staffordshire, south-west, asked Mr Channon if he was aware that of the total amount allocated by local authorities for recreational and leisure purposes, only 13 per cent was devoted to the arts.

Mr Channon said he was against local authorities being made to levy a special rate for the arts.

Antiques stolen from police

Thieves have by-passed an alarm system to a storeroom at the Humberside crime squad's offices in Hull and stolen goods which had been recovered.

They broke into a building about 50 yards from the main station and selected 14 items of antique silverware valued at £1,500. The police believe there was a special reason for their selecting the items from among other valuable goods.

Benevolent funds try to bridge the gap during wait for compensation

Ready help for victims of violence in Ulster

By Sara Bonner
and John Winder

If the troubles of the last decade or more in northern Ireland have produced anything of value, it is that the victims of the violence, especially those in the security forces, have in general been well treated. It is 10 years this week since the first British soldier, Gunner Robert Curtis, died after being shot.

This is the International Year of Disabled People, and it is encouraging to find that Mr David Bennett, the secretary of the Police Federation in Northern Ireland, reports that injured policemen there are well treated. Both the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the Army retain, if possible, those who have been disabled.

In the 10 years to January 29 last, 337 Army personnel were killed and 3,399 injured. In the Ulster Defence Regiment, 108 were killed and 207 were injured. The RUC lost 142 dead and 1,124 injured.

That compares with civilian deaths of 1,490 and injuries of 15,195 during the present troubles, which started about two years before the first Army death.

Of the soldiers injured, only 173 have had to be medically discharged up to the end of 1978.

That is an indication of Ministry of Defence policy that when a man is badly injured in Northern Ireland, it is in his own interests which principally determine whether or not he is retained.

A ministry spokesman said: "Each case is treated on its merits, but we would simply not dream of discharging a chap if he could be made use of in the Army".

One of the main criticisms of the treatment of injured exservicemen or their dependants, is the tardiness of compensation. Mr Charles Maughan, general secretary of the Royal British Legion in London said that some cases before the courts were taking between 18 months and three years to determine.

The gap is in some measure bridged by the Army Benevolent Fund, by regimental organizations and by other funds. The benevolent fund, for example, has established a special Northern Ireland relief fund which has distribued £300,000.

Brigadier Tim Lanyon, appeals director of the benevolent fund, emphasized that that was not compensation, and that their job was to tide people over in desperate circumstances, often because official compensation took months or years to come through.

The fund, however, must expect to face this as a growing need, even if the troubles in Northern Ireland come to a sudden end. Veterans of the 1939-45 war, now reaching their sixties and seventies are increasingly in need of assistance, and anyone who has ever been in the British Army is eligible for the fund's help.

The long-term financial aid for victims of violence comes from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, which has so far paid out more than £60m. The basis for that compensation is pecuniary loss.

Indications of the greater community spirit which has come to Northern Ireland because of the troubles were given by Mr Morwood Meldrum, director of the Northern Ireland Council of Social Services, an umbrella organization for the societies in the province, some formed as a direct result of the emergency.

"There is no doubt that because of the violence, support for the various voluntary organizations has increased. Voluntary giving here is also much more per head than in other parts of the United Kingdom."

The rate of unemployment was 15.7, so that that generosity was even greater. He believed that it had been occasioned by suffering, for those who had themselves suffered were among the most generous.

"In the International Year of Disabled People we are trying to do three things: to change attitudes of all people towards the disabled; to integrate them into society, and to promote effective measures for the prevention of disability."

No bodies in Northern Ireland had done more to cross denominational and sectarian boundaries than the voluntary organizations.

Mr Peter McLachlan, secretary of the Belfast Voluntary Welfare Society, said that a comprehensive survey should be done to establish the scale and nature of disabilities caused by the emergency.

Sinn Fein plea on new Maze crisis

From Craig Seton
Belfast

A new hunger strike by republican prisoners at the Maze prison in Northern Ireland is considered likely. Some reports yesterday suggested that the men have already decided when it will take place and who will take part.

Provisional Sinn Fein in Belfast yesterday appealed to politicians and church leaders to use their influence on the Government to avert a new crisis in the H-blocks of the prison and accused the Government of calling for unconditional surrender from the men.

It was reported yesterday that several prisoners, fewer than the seven who went on hunger strike for 53 days last year, might start refusing food at the end of this month.

A written question about the H-block issue was expected to have been answered by Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, in the Commons yesterday but last night the Northern Ireland Office said it was not known when his answer would be available.

Sinn Fein said it was not in favour of the hunger strike weapon, but any decision, to be announced by the weekend, would be taken inside the H-blocks.

The H-block prisoners claim that the Government has reneged on assurances made in December about prison conditions and tension has rapidly increased over the last two weeks.

Ninety-six men who were moved to clean cells smashed their furniture last week and have since resumed smearing cell walls with excrement, bringing the total on the so-called dirty protest back to more than four hundred.

Arms cache found: Irish police have found a terrorist arms dump on an isolated form in co Monaghan near the border with Ulster (the Press Association reports). It is understood that shotguns and rifles stolen in recent terrorist raids on gun club members' homes near the border were recovered.

Dublin trial: Peter Rodgers, aged 35, appeared at a special criminal court in Dublin yesterday accused of the capital murder of a policeman, a crime which can carry the death sentence if he is convicted. He pleaded not guilty to the murder of Detective Garda Seamus Quaid last October and to charges of possessing arms and explosives.

Arson by youth who was 'obsessed with terrorism'

From Our Correspondent
Shrewsbury

A sixth-former obsessed by terrorism and known as "Trotsky", made a fire attack on an hotel in Shrewsbury, where five Conservative MPs were among 100 people attending a weekend political school, Shrewsbury magistrates were told yesterday.

He used material from his school's laboratory to make two crude incendiary devices, one of which exploded, causing damage to the conference hall door, Mr Nicholas Mitchell, for the prosecution, said.

Gary Roberts, aged 17, telephoned the hotel to say bombs had been planted and everyone inside had to leave.

Mr Robert Onions, for the defence, said the defendant's actions were not politically motivated. They were no more than a personal protest against a system which did not allow him to vote.

Mr Roberts, of Reabrook Avenue, Shrewsbury, admitted arson, causing damage to the conference hall door; attempted arson, placing the device under a councillor's car; and a third charge of sending false information to the hotel that bombs had been placed. He was placed on probation for two years and ordered to pay £40 compensation and costs.

Mr Mitchell said that the youth, who was studying sociology, carried out a project on terrorism which had gained him high marks.

McNee warning of increasing crime

The number of murders, rapes, thefts and acts of vandalism could double over the next 20 years, Sir David McNee, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said yesterday. He also said he had no reason to suppose that terrorism in London would diminish in the coming year.

Sir David gave his assessment in a speech in which he urged Christians to show the way to a more law-abiding society.

Speaking at the Church of St George's-Tron, Glasgow, where he used to worship when he was a policeman in the city, he said London's crime statistics painted an "horrific picture" with a four-fold increase in serious crime over the past 22 years.

About a third of the people arrested for serious crime were youngsters. Since 1973 London had had more bombings, shootings and injuries as a result of terrorism than in the rest of Britain, and the Iranian Embassy events had dubbed 1980 as "The Year of the Siege", Sir David said.

He said: "That single incident served to demonstrate the political, international and unpredictable aspect of terrorism. There is nothing I know that suggests that this form of criminal activity will lessen in the years to come."

Sir David went on: "As we look into the future and project the dramatic increase of the past 20 years into the next 20, one could be forgiven for sinking under a sense of helplessness.

"Even those of us who are considered old by our children may yet have to live in a time where burglary, theft, vandalism, murder, assault and rape are at least twice as prevalent as they are today."

He said: "As Christians, while we must be realists and appreciate that crime will always be with us, we must not allow despair about the darker side of mankind to overcome our determination to create a better world.

WEST EUROPE

Bombs in Khrushchev book sent to three Romanian defectors

From Jan Murray
Paris, Feb 4

The works of the late Nikita Khrushchev, the former Soviet leader, were used to camouflage three parcel bombs which went off at the homes of two Romanian dissidents in Paris and of one in Cologne yesterday. All three men had taken part in a press conference in Madrid in November on human rights in their country.

One of the dissidents, Mr Nicolae Penescu, a former Minister of the Interior, was wounded in the face, neck and hands and has had to be detained in hospital. The other bomb caused slight burns to the face and hands of a bomb disposal officer called by the other dissident, Mr Paul Goma.

The third dissident, Mr Orasou, an engineer who has lived in Cologne since 1978, was injured when he opened his parcel of booby-trapped books.

Mr Goma, a writer who has been nicknamed "the Solzhenitsyn of Romania", was a 21-year-old student in 1956 when he first fell out with the Romanian authorities by proclaiming his support for the Hungarian uprising. His writings and strongly expressed views eventually led to persecution which forced him to seek exile in France in 1977.

He later described how he had been arrested in 1977 after signing with 180 other Romanian figures an open letter on human rights to the Belgrade conference. He said that before his release, the Deputy Minister of the Interior had warned him: "If you do not keep quiet, the long arm of the revolution will get you wherever you may be."

Undeterred, Mr Goma has spoken, written and toured extensively to spread his message that there are no human rights in his native land.

He said today that on two occasions—in New York and in Paris—strangers had warned him that he would be "Bulgarized". "In other words I would be given 'the Bulgarian umbrella thrust' which the secret service used against Bulgarian dissidents by sticking them with a poisoned umbrella."

(He was referring to the death in London in September, 1978, of Mr Georgi Markov, a Bulgarian defector, and of the wounding of Mr Vladimir Kostov, another Bulgarian defector, in the preceding August.)

The parcel containing the bomb had apparently been posted in Spain, he said. He had suspected nothing as he often received books in the mail but opening it found that Mr Khrushchev's words had been removed and replaced by something which appeared to be much more explosive, with wires and a battery.

He quickly shut the parcel, dumped it in the bathroom and called the police. It had gone off the moment the police expert touched it, but had not caused serious injury.

"It is certain that it was done by the Romanian secret police, the *Securitate*", he said. "Ever since I came to live in exile in Paris three years ago, I have received endless death threats in Romanian by letter or telephone.

"We Romanian dissidents never cease to denounce everything which happens in our country from the point of view of human rights. When we held a press conference on the fringes of the Madrid conference, it was interrupted by a bomb scare. Personally I am frequently taken apart by the Romanian press which calls me a traitor and fascist."

According to Mr Penescu's wife, the parcel bomb which injured her husband was identical to the one delivered to Mr Goma, but she believed it had not been brought by the postman.

Mr Penescu left Romania 11 years ago after 17 years in prison. A lawyer and a member of the National Romanian Council in Exile, he has written variously in *Le Monde* on the danger to West Europe of the Soviet block.

Mr Spaak's key job at Brussels

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 4

The former head of the EEC's permanent delegation in Washington, Mr Fernand Spaak, has been appointed to the key post of *Chef de Cabinet* of Mr Gaston Thorn, the new president of the European Commission.

One of Mr Spaak's main tasks over the coming months will be to join the small group negotiating the preparations for the non-communist world's economic summit meeting in Ottawa next July.

Each of the heads of state or government attending the summit appoints a personal representative to take part in these preparatory meetings, and Mr Spaak will perform this office for Mr Thorn.

The right of the commission's president to attend the Western summits was established by Mr Thorn's predecessor, Mr Roy Jenkins, after a tough diplomatic battle with the French, who considered his presence an intrusion.

The other participants at the summit are the Presidents of the United States and France, the Chancellor of West Germany, and the Prime Ministers of Britain, Italy, Canada and Japan.

Son of the late Paul-Henri Spaak, the former Socialist Prime Minister of Belgium and one of the founding fathers of the EEC, Mr Spaak was a respected figure in Washington and made a wide range of contacts which should stand him in good stead.

He replaces a Luxembourg Eurocrat, Mr Adrien Ries, who returned after a month in the job to the Grand Duchy and asked to be relieved of his responsibilities.

Spain may give vote to foreigners

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Feb 4

British and other foreign residents of more than five years' standing will be allowed to vote in municipal elections in Spain provided Spaniards living in their respective countries are granted a reciprocal privilege, according to proposed legislation here, sources close to the Spanish Government said here today.

The draft law amplifies a constitutional provision which said that non-Spaniards under certain conditions could be granted a limited right to vote. The constitution did not explain those conditions.

The proposed law on foreigners also specifies that in addition to reciprocity: those who wish to vote must have been legal residents of the town or city in question for an uninterrupted period of at least five years.

If the law goes into effect, it would correct an anomaly in a number of coastal villages where there are more permanent foreign residents than Spaniards, but where the foreigners up to now have had no say in local government.

The proposal does not authorize non-Spaniards to hold public office, and does not allow foreigners to act "as promotors of meetings of a political nature".

Mafiosi arrested

Cantania, Sicily, Feb 4.—Twenty alleged members of the Mafia were arrested here and in villages near by during raids by paramilitary police in the night, court officials said. They were charged with criminal association and various crimes related to Mafia activities.

MEPs under fire for costly trip to Latin America

By David Wood

Leading Conservative members of the European Parliament are "dismayed" by the week's visit to Latin America paid by a parliamentary delegation with an entourage of interpreters and clerks, at a cost of £250,000.

Sir James Scott-Hopkins, leader of the Anglo-Danish European Democratic Group, which had members on the delegation, is to protest to Mme Simone Veil, president of the Parliament, and ask her to ensure that it does not happen again.

In a statement yesterday Mr John de Courcy Ling, European Democrat chief whip, did not conceal that he sees a sharp contradiction between the Conservative attitude towards public spending and revelations about the "Latin American junket".

He said that British Conservative MEP "have shown, by their conduct on the spending committee of the Parliament, that they share the British Government's concern to minimize public expenditure and to protect the taxpayer at the EEC level, as at the national level".

Defending Conservatives who were on the delegation, he said that it would be wrong to pillory individual members, because they did an important job overseas in promoting the Community's external trade, which was of increasing importance to Britain.

The EEC, he said, was now the world's largest trading block, with a collective gross national product equal to that of the United States. It followed that the Community had a growing role in Latin America.

However, he admitted that on the Latin American visit "there were far too many supporting stars". That was always a problem when there had to be interpretation into seven official Community languages.

Thirty-six MEPs, with parliamentary officials (interpreters and clerks) making a total of 103, travelled first-class from European capitals to Bogota, Colombia, with an expense allowance of about £60 a day.

Critics make the point that the European Parliament has no responsibility for foreign policy, but it is concerned with the Community's external trade policy. Overseas visits are increasing, and the same questions are beginning to be asked as were formerly asked about overseas visits from Westminster.

The size of delegations appears to be questionable, and it is often possible to choose MEPs for delegations who do not need interpreters when they go abroad.

It is likely some British MEPs will raise questions about the cost of the Latin American trip, and of other delegations, at a plenary session of the Parliament next week.

مكنز من الأصل

WEST EUROPE

King faces protest at Guernica parliament

From Richard Wigg
Guernica, Feb 4

King Juan Carlos was stopped for seven minutes as he began to address the Parliament of the Basque region here today by interruptions from about 40 singing and chanting MPs. All of them belonged to the extreme left-wing party of the Basque nationalists, Herri Batasuna (Basque Unity).

The speech at Guernica, the town with the famous oak tree where Spain's kings in the Middle Ages swore an oath to respect the Basques' *fueros* or *historic rights*, was the most significant moment politically of the king's two-day visit.

Herri Batasuna, which has close links with ETA, the terrorist organization, has opposed the royal visit, and his demonstration by a party which has boycotted any assembly above the municipal level since it came into second place in the Basque region general election last March, was intended to be its maximum effort at protest.

The party placed advertisements in the region's newspapers today showing Don Juan Carlos appearing with Franco under the slogan "The Basque country will never surrender".

The king waited patiently, smiling occasionally, during the demonstration in the Casa de Juntas, and observed before starting again on his prepared text: "In front of those who practise intolerance and do not respect representative institutions, or the most elementary rules of freedom of expression, I want to reaffirm my faith in democracy and confidence in the Basque people."

There words were greeted with loud applause and cheers from the members of other parties.

The King, who condemned violence in the Basque region, put the monarchy firmly behind Basque home rule within the framework of Spain's national unity.

He said: "The Basque peoples' liberty, as expressed in the long existence of their institutions, never constituted any obstacles whatever to the unity of Spain."

The King described the newly granted autonomy—the "authentic desire of the Basques of the past decades"—as returning a liberty to the Basque provinces which had formed the basis for a model of loyalty.

But he also firmly rejected separatism. The Basque country constituted "an element which cannot be given up in our project for a common life within the unity of Spain," he said.

By his presence in so historic a location for the Basques, the King has sought to put his seal on the devolution process and prevent the right-wing forces in society from exploiting the regional problem to reverse the whole democratic process.

There was heavy security along the country roads here from Bilbao, with policemen every 30 yards in some small towns. Four water cannon vehicles were in Guernica's main street.

The second day of the tour began with a royal visit to the Bilbao Altos Hornos steelworks, where the King was received by the workers with indifference and without applause.

The voice of a woman identifying herself as a member of ETA, drowned the sound on the main television news broadcast in the San Sebastian area tonight when it dealt with the King's visit.

She repeated the demand for an amnesty of ETA terrorists or suspects detained in Spanish jails and repuliated the royal visit to the Basque country.

The Pope admiring the skills of two acrobats during his general audience in the Vatican.

Rival candidates vying for de Gaulle's mantle

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 4

In my father's house are many mansions would seem an appropriate motto of the Gaullist party a short time before the presidential elections, the first of which will be held on April 26 and the second on May 10.

With the announcement of the candidature of M Jacques Chirac, there are no less than three candidates and there will soon be four—if President Giscard d'Estaing is to be included when he declares himself—who claim to be the true spiritual heirs of Gaullism. Moreover, the Socialists and Communists now drape themselves in part at least of the General's mantle of national independence.

This plethora of disciples of the Cross of Lorraine is summed up in a cartoon published today by *Le Monde* which shows M Michel Debré, M Chirac, and Mme Marie-France Garaud all wearing the General's constellated *képi* and speaking into a microphone of the BBC. Things were simpler on June 18, 1940.

The voters on April 26 will have a hard time deciding on this problem of Gaullist legitimacy which is becoming a conundrum just about as close to present-day realities as medieval theologians' debate about the sex of angels.

For M Debré, the former Prime Minister of General de Gaulle, and sometimes rather naughtily described as the "vestal virgin of Gaullism", there is no doubt about who is the true guardian of the flame. He has already condemned M Chirac, who yesterday stood down as the president of the Gaullist RPR, for having "assumed the responsibility of breaking for ever the movement which claimed allegiance to Gaullism", this takes some doing on the part of a man who announced his candidature to the presidency last June as a personal gesture, without awaiting the verdict of this same movement to which he still belongs.

In a "Letter to the *compagnons* (the Gaullist version of comrades) on the eve of the congress", which will meet next Saturday to endorse M Chirac's candidature. He challenges its very validity and declares that he will stay away from it, that no one will address it in his name, and that he will call on his supporters to follow his example.

He asserts that it is not up to a Gaullist congress to choose between two candidates. "It is a detestable procedure, which makes us akin to a party" (as if Gaullism since de Gaulle had ever been anything else).

President Giscard d'Estaing abundantly mentioned General de Gaulle in a long interview published today by *Jour de France*, the glossy weekly magazine of M Marcel Dassault, the aircraft manufacturer.

He quoted for this several reasons. "First because I learnt the job of statesmanship at his side, and I was always conscious of the fact. It is a job one has to learn concretely. I watched how he did it. Next, there is the office. Political leaders think the ties with political parties or groups is the stronger. No. The office is stronger than these ties. Finally, the fundamental choices he made seem to me the right ones."

The President obviously felt he had tackled the Polish problem in truly Gaullist style. Twice he referred to his Warsaw summit with President Brezhnev. Criticism of it was "fundamentally inaccurate" he said. "I fully understand that I could have been reproached with agreeing with Mr Brezhnev on this or that matter that would have been bad for France . . . But that the head of the French state should discuss matters directly with world leaders in the events of tension in the world, that he should say useful things, that, precisely was to uphold France's place in history."

Britain reticent on neutron bomb

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

There was no direct British reaction yesterday to the statement by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Secretary of Defence, that the Reagan Administration would "very probably want to make use" of the neutron bomb.

The Foreign Office confined itself to saying that Britain would warmly welcome the opportunity to have full consultations with Washington and other Nato allies on the latest American ideas about defence.

"It is to be expected that the new United States Administration will want to review United States military policy and programmes across the board", a Foreign Office spokesman said. "We understand that the new United States Secretary of Defence emphasized there would be no final decision on enhanced radiation weapons until the allies had been fully consulted. No specific proposals have been made."

Britain is not developing enhanced radiation technology, nor has plans to do so.

Agreement needed: Herr Kurt Becker, a West German Government spokesman, said yesterday that the Government's previous decision to allow United States neutron bombs to be stationed in West Germany was no longer valid and a new agreement would have to be reached (UPI reports from Bonn).

He said that the Bonn Cabinet at its regular meeting noted Mr Weinberger's statement in Washington. Herr Schmidt, the Federal Chancellor was said to have been angered by Mr Carter's decision in April 1978, to postpone production of the bomb.

Dutch opposition: A majority of the Dutch Parliament called on the Government to oppose the deployment of the neutron bomb (AP reports from The Hague).

The motion asked the Government to argue against introduction of the weapon into the Nato arsenal and to state that the Dutch Government opposes its deployment on Dutch Soil. It was convinced that the neutron bomb "blurs the distinction between nuclear and conventional weapons and lowers the nuclear threshold".

Soviet reaction: A Soviet commentator predicted that Washington would attempt to "blackmail" its European allies into accepting development of neutron weapons (AP reports from Moscow).

Tass, in a commentary by Vladimir Goncharov, wrote that Washington would use "political pressure and economic blackmail as well as propaganda brainwashing" to convince other members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Leading article, page 15

Radio presenter cleared over colonel's suicide

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 4

A radio presenter was not to blame for the suicide of a retired army officer who was featured unflatteringly in a popular programme, the High Court of Amiens decided today.

The court cleared M Pierre Bellemare, a presenter with Europe One of responsibility in the death of Lieutenant-Colonel René Comte, who shot himself on Christmas Eve, 1973, only three days after the programme about him had gone out.

In it, M Bellemare described a legal battle between the retired colonel with his wife and a pig breeder who lived and carried out his business next door. The programme included an interview with the local mayor, M Maurice Noiret, in which the colonel believed he was branded as a coward.

OVERSEAS

Mr Walesa advises more sit-ins but no force as talks falter

Warsaw, Feb 4.—Talks between the Polish Government and strikers in the southern province of Bielsko-Biala broke down today, and Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of the Solidarity trade union organization, told workers to stage sit-in protests and resort only to passive resistance in the event of attacks.

Strike leaders in the province, an important industrial centre close to the Czechoslovak border, instructed workers to intensify the occupation of their plants.

Workers have been occupying more than 120 major plants in the province for nine days in support of demands for the dismissal of some 30 provincial officials.

Mr Jozef Labudek, the provincial governor, and three of his deputies, accused by the strikers of corruption and financial abuse, submitted their resignations last night. But the authorities refused to accept them, apparently determined not to give in openly to what they regard as a political strike.

Mr Walesa, who was with the strikers today, issued a statement saying they should not make any new demands. He also called on all other regional branches of his union of 10 million members to make no important decisions without consulting him.

He said: "If a forcible attack on Bielsko were to occur or communications were to be cut, occupation strikes are to be staged but no new demands should be pressed. Only passive resistance should be employed."

The Government announced last night that strikers would receive only half pay, and then only if their strikes did not infringe union statutes.

Mr Stanislaw Kania the party leader, in a speech on Monday accused Solidarity of staging strikes far beyond the limits of normal trade union activity and said the union was turning itself into a political opposition.

The strike leaders in Bielsko-Biala said that some factories had been occupied only by skeleton shifts. They called for more workers to stay in their factories during the evening and night shifts and asked for more food and blankets.

The Warsaw evening newspaper, *Express Wieczorny*, tonight explained some of the accusations brought by the strikers against officials in Bielsko-Biala. It said that people were above all indignant about the allocation of housing.

"The Governor had a special pool of apartments at his disposal and many higher officials were given houses at low prices and on generous credit terms", it said.

The party Central Committee will hold its eighth plenary session on Monday, the Polish *radio announced today*.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Alarming Warsaw figures aggravate Western concern

Poland lacks funds to discharge international debt payments

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

The problem of how to deal with Poland's economic difficulties, already causing acute concern in the Western capitals, has been further aggravated by bad figures from Warsaw this week.

National income was down 4 per cent last year, compared with 1979, itself 2 per cent down on 1978. The latest indicators for January show industrial output running at half the level of the previous January.

Leaving aside the economic implications, the diplomatic and political aspects of the crisis, are leading Western countries into uncharted territory. "We are just feeling our way", officials admit adding, "Even if we knew all the figures, we could not give them out".

The fact is, whisper who dares, that Poland is broke. Bankers and Treasury officials do not, of course, talk in such terms. They speak of the very considerable difficulties Poland would have in meeting its debt obligations this quarter.

With borrowings estimated at $24,000m (£10,000m) it would require 70 per cent, or more, of Poland's total foreign exchange earnings to meet its interest payments. It is because this leaves too small a margin for running the economy that the present rescue operation *for Poland is being mounted*.

Several factors make Poland's predicament unique. Poland is not a developing country. It is in fact the first industrial country unable to meet its international debt obligations—for Turkey, which anyway is a member of the Western alliance cannot really be described as an industrial country.

The normal process for countries in difficulties is to turn to the International Monetary Fund, which can make loans or credit lines available (as Britain has had cause to know on more than one occasion) and help in working out a recovery plan, designed not only to put the economy back on its feet, but assure in due course the repayment of its loans.

This is not posible with Poland. Poland is not merely outside the financial frame of reference within which Western and Third World countries operate, it is also very much under the shadow of the Soviet Union.

For this reason, discussion of Poland's indebtedness by Western countries takes place in secret. The Club of Paris which is the usual forum for creditors to meet, compare notes and organize rescue operations, has faded into the background. Instead, meetings are referred to in very guarded terms, usually after the event.

Various indications about the Polish economic performance are fed in by Polish officials, and conclusions drawn. The past performance of the Polish economy has been so inept, in the view of most experts, that it is hard now to take at face value the claims of future success.

But as officials sometimes put it, when a player in a poker game goes broke, his partners can do two things: either give him more money, in the hope that he will be in a better position to repay his previous debts, or stop the game. In financial terms, this means refinancing or rescheduling. The Poles are in no doubt that they wish to continue playing, they intend to repay their debts.

Moreover, there is a general sense that Moscow, in the last resort, would not allow a default to occur and would somehow find a way of guaranteeing Poland's debts. In the past, the Soviet Union has been scrupulous in its international financial dealings, bankers say.

But the question arises, how much to refinance? In the first quarter of this year, Britain contributed £15m for food aid, and about £15m to facilitate the repayment of debts, that is new money for paying back most of the old debts due.

It seems that another short-term rescue operation will have to be mounted for the second quarter, before a longer-term plan can be devised. With a new Administration in Washington, there has not been time to concert *Western policy towards* Poland.

Run-up to Soviet congress brings a wave of licensed criticism of state and society

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 4

For four years after 1976 every city in the Soviet Union displayed slogans proclaiming: "We shall fulfil the decisions of the twenty-fifth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union." But last autumn these were replaced with a new exhortation: "Let us worthily greet the twenty-sixth Congress."

The change marked the beginning of an intensive campaign that has been going on for five months to prepare the country for the crucial gathering of Soviet and world Communists that opens in Moscow in just under three weeks.

The preparations have gone on at every level: on the shop floor, in city councils, regional party committees, and finally in the party central committees in each of the 15 republics making up the Soviet Union, which have been holding meetings over the past two weeks.

In each case party activists and officials have taken stock of their achievements over the past five years, noting what has been done to carry out the policies of the last congress and what remains unaccomplished, and drawing up plans for the future. Officials have been going through a process resembling new year resolutions, casting a critical eye over their shortcomings and pledging themselves to do better in the future.

The party considers this unsettling self-examination extremely important. Indeed, the press has been full of some very frank admissions that not all has been going well, that much remains to be done, and that too many party officials have lapsed

Even official reports of the congresses in Georgia, Estonia, Turkmenia, Latvia and other constituent republics have spoken of the tendency of party propaganda to be dull and cliché-ridden.

The run-up to the full congress is a rare period when criticism is not simply tolerated but solicited. Indeed, an account of the Latvian party congress sharply denounced local officials who refused to accept criticism and took revenge on those levelling charges against them.

All criticism has to be "constructive" and "principled"—in other words, within the party framework. But something still remains during this brief period of open debate that harks back to the pre-Stalin days of Soviet power.

The Soviet Communist Party now comprises more than 17 million members, or about 9.3 per cent of the population, and shows an increase of about 1,500,000 since the last Congress. At the lowest level its organizational structure now includes more than 400,000 individual units.

These are meant to be the "vanguard" of Soviet society, the instruments for implementing party policy, the watchdogs guarding the heritage of Lenin, and the means by which the state can exercise control over every aspect of life in the Soviet Union.

It is on these organizations that the spotlight now falls, and they are the bodies which are to be blamed if key economic targets have not been fulfilled in their regions, or if there has been any upsurge in activities deemed incompatible with the party's ideology, religion, crime, local nationalism, and so on.

In the past few months, the press has been merciless in exposing party organizations that have not lived up to standards. As *Pravda* reminded its readers in a leading article yesterday: "Whoever joins the party has to set an example of Communist principles in action". Wherever he worked—on a farm or building site, in a factory or office—he had to be an organizer.

Unfortunately, the paper said, this often took the form of simply shuffling papers, or party officials went round boasting about their statistics and plans and then forgot about them.

Pravda said some party members had still not shown themselves to be "active political strugglers". There were cases of individual comrades turning a blind eye to shortcomings, absenteeism, drunkenness and conduct unbecoming to a party member.

Last December the paper gave a more detailed example of what it meant. In the small town of Kolomyya in western Ukraine, with a population of about 40,000, there had been "flagrant violations of state and party discipline, manifestations of self-conceit and pretentiousness, and private ownership tendencies".

The town authorities had allowed churchgoers to "feather their nests" and had illegally supplied them with materials to build a church. Party leaders had rewarded their relatives with large flats, cars, expensive furniture and building materials.

The local hospitals and schools were under the control of "an entire group of bribe-takers", including the wife of the head of the party organization. Last year there had been an alarming increase in the crime rate, although the authorities had falsified the statistics to present themselves in a better light.

The press plays an important role in ensuring that party organizations put their houses in order, but the press itself has not escaped criticism.

In general, the press has been much concerned with workers' morale in the run-up to the congress, and has emphasized the need to instil a sense of discipline and responsibility. The aim is to generate some urgency and enthusiasm in Soviet industry, but probably at the same time to prepare the Soviet population for the tough new labour measures which many people expect the party will be forced to adopt at the coming congress in an effort to raise the low productivity of the economy.

Budget cuts briefing for Congress

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 4

Fulfilling his election promise to make traffic between the White House and Congress a two-way street, President Reagan today met Republican and Democrat leaders in the Capitol.

Mindful of former President Carter's early mistake in failing to cultivate support for his legislation among members of Congress, Mr Reagan has been going out of his way to consult them about the various sacrifices that their constituents will be asked to make to set the economy straight.

Mr Reagan has also been meeting the country's big-city mayors and black leaders this week to brief them on his economic plans. The nation at large will know what the new Administration has in store for them when the President delivers his first televised address to the nation on Thursday night.

The general message which he has been trying to get across is that future budget cuts will hurt all sections of the community except, possibly, the most deprived.

It seems, however, that some members of Congress have already received lists of proposed tentative cuts in federal spending during the next two or three years and these have dutifully been leaked to a number of American newspapers. Some of the leaks were clearly designed to sabotage the planned reductions.

The federal programmes which are likely to suffer the most controversial changes are food stamps (designed to help the very poor), highway construction; public service jobs, grants to state and local governments and some unemployment benefits. The reductions are expected to save the Administration about $50m (£20.8m) over the next three years.

In spite of Mr Reagan's attempts to curry favour with members of Congress, however, it is almost certain that his economic programme will be modified considerably. The Democrats still control the House of Representatives and even moderate Republicans in the Senate are likely to balk at some of the more conservative changes likely to be requested by the President.

Gulf states to set up regional security council

Bahrain, Feb 4.—Six Gulf states, including some of the richest Arab oil exporters, decided today to set up a council for Gulf cooperation to pool their resources and safeguard the stability of the region, the official Gulf News Agency said.

Foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain took the decision at a meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia today.

The new organization would consist of a council of Gulf rulers, a council of foreign ministers or their representatives, and a secretariat, the agency said.

Russia criticized: Diplomatic sources said Moscow is apparently edging towards Iran despite commitments to Iraq (Reuter reports from Baghdad). The Soviet Union cut off direct arms supplies to Iraq at the start of the Gulf war with Iran in September, eastern block sources said, but Soviet-made arms were still reaching the country through some East European states.

Soviet riposte: The Soviet news agency Tass dismissed as absurd reports that Soviet tanks had been shipped to Iraq from Eastern Europe via Saudi Arabia (Reuter reports from Moscow).

Hopes rise for release of Britons in Tehran

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Hopes rose yesterday that the four Britons detained in Iran might be released soon, after a statement by the head of the Supreme Court in Iran that a decision would be reached "in a few days".

A further encouraging sign was the arrival of a letter home from one of the four, Mr Andrew Pyke, a businessman. In it he said he was being treated well. It was the first letter his family has received from him since his arrest seven months ago.

The Foreign Office was extremely cautious about the prospects yesterday, in the absence of any official word from Iran.

The statement that a decision would be taken within a few days about the detained Britons was made by Chief Justice Ayatollah Muhammad Beheshti. He was speaking at a routine press conference, but gave no details beyond saying he had discussed the issue with a Swedish diplomat.

In his letter to his father in Hereford, Mr Pyke said that his treatment at the hands of the Iranians has been correct and humane. He said he was having good food and being allowed plenty of exercise and to play recreational games.

A first hand report that the others being held, Dr and Mrs John Coleman and Miss Jean Waddell, who are all missionaries, were being treated reasonably well was given shortly after Christmas, when they were seen by Mr Terry Waite, the special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

American tried: Mrs Cynthia Dwyer, an American freelance journalist, was tried by an Islamic revolutionary court in Tehran today on charges of spying after being held for eight months (writes Tony Allaway from Tehran).

The trial set Swedish and British diplomats reexamining the case of the four Britons "Obviously I hope they are not put on trial", said Mr Edmund Barrett, British Consul and First Secretary in the section of the Swedish Embassy responsible for British interests. "Equally obviously, after this news one cannot rule it out".

According to a Swiss Embassy official who witnessed the trial, Mrs Dwyer had a long indictment read out against her "The general line is syping and acting against the best interests of the Islamic republic", he said.

Mrs Dwyer was allowed to present her own defence.

Mirage delivery followed by oil from Iraq

From Our Correspondent
Paris, February 4

Iraq is resuming its oil exports to France this month at the rate of 60,000 barrels a day. Until the outbreak of the war with Iran, Iraq had been the second largest oil supplier to France, providing 23 per cent of total needs.

Iraq's exports were then 3,000,000 barrels a day, but its output now is no more than 400,000 barrels a day. That so much of it will go to France is a sign that France has been given preferential treatment.

Ayatollah orders political bickering to stop

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 4

Ayatollah Khomeini, speaking with obvious anger, today ordered a halt to the divisive political battle between the President and religious fundamentalists.

"They sting each other like snakes and scorpions," he said in a speech broadcast by the official radio. "Either they do not understand or do understand and want to sting."

As supporters of the dominant Islamic Republican Party launched virulent attacks this morning in reply to those of President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr the Ayatollah said: "I advise them to be calm. I advise them not to sting each other, not to scratch each others faces."

Speaking in some of his harshest terms, the Ayatollah added: "Heaven forbid if they are doing it consciously. Heaven forbid a day when I feel my utmost responsibility . . . If I feel bound by duties I will take back whatever I have given to anyone."

It was unclear exactly whom the last veiled threat referred to. In general the Ayatollah's complaints seemed evenly spread between the opposing factions. Political sources noted that his speech was made after outbursts by the fundamentalists rather than directly after a controversial speech by the President on Saturday, in which he called for public support against "oppressors".

The threat could indeed apply to both sides. Ayatollah Khomeini personally appointed Ayatollah Muhammad Beheshti, the IRP leader, as head of the Supreme Court. He also transferred his powers as commander-in-chief to the President, and indeed enjoys the power under the constitution to dismiss him from office.

This could be done if the Parliament, dominated by the IRP, declared the President to be "politically incapable", or if the Supreme Court headed by Ayatollah Beheshti ruled that the President had exceeded his legal duties.

In a press conference today Ayatollah Beheshti indicated that he did indeed consider the President had done so.

In a surprisingly personal and bitter attack on the President the morning newspaper *Azadegan*, which supports the fundamentalists, accused him of plotting to take power.

UN agency blamed for starvation threat to Ugandan province

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Feb 4

Mr Richard Luce, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said today that Britain would cooperate closely with the new Ugandan Government of President Milton Obote in its efforts to restore the country's economy.

He also expressed satisfaction with the work of British aid agencies in helping to overcome famine in Karamoja, north-eastern Uganda.

On a five-day visit to Uganda, the first by a British minister since President Obote took over power after last month's election, Mr Luce went to Karamoja. He was told by aid workers that the area was facing the threat of widespread starvation if better arrangements were not quickly made to transport relief food.

Britain is providing assistance to rebuild the Ugandan police. But Mr Luce made it clear that Britain's ability to contribute directly to further aid schemes was limited because of the financial situation. Britain was, however, anxious to help Ugandan recovery and ready to consider a system of investment and export credit guarantees.

Speaking to reporters today before leaving Entebbe for Nairobi, Mr Luce said he was impressed with Dr Obote's assurances that foreign investment would be safeguarded. Dr Obote had told him that there would be no nationalization of foreign holdings. Uganda is returning to their former British and other owners some of the assets seized in 1972 by former President Idi Amin.

The Karamoja famine figured prominently in discussions that ended in Nairobi today between representatives of the British Save the Children Fund Organization, officials of the fund from Britain, led by Mr Hugh Mackay, its overseas director, and directors of its operations from Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Mr Mackay expressed concern about a hold-up in transport facilities to Karamoja, where he said food supplies would run out by the middle of this month if urgent measures were not taken. The United Nations Development Programme, which is responsible for coordinating transport, was accused of "bungling inefficiency" by Mr Guy Blest, the fund's field director in Uganda.

Mr Mackay said that with the rainy season due to begin early in March, roads in Karamoja would become impassable.

He called on the United Nations to act immediately to improve the transport system. Most of the heavy lorries are out of action for lack of spare parts or lack of fuel. To meet the immediate needs, the Save the Children Fund has hired lorries from Kenya to move 3,500 tons of food. Karamoja needs 800 tons of food a week.

Mr Blest said: "We had hoped by our action to buy time for the United Nations to get its fleet mobile. But they appear to have done nothing."

Mr John Forsyth, the Oxfam representative in Nairobi, endorsed this view. He said that Oxfam officials operating "food for work" schemes in Karamoja would be in physical danger if they were unable to supply food in return for work done by the Karamojong people.

Mr Roen Repp, coordinator of emergency operations for the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) in East Africa, agreed. He said that Unicef had itself provided cash for spares in an effort to get the idle lorries moving again, but this was only a temporary solution.

In Sudan, the flow of refugees from Ethiopia (as distinct from Eritrea) has recently trebled to about 6,000 a month.

In Ethiopia, the Save the Children Fund has been allowed to start a resettlement operation for homeless people in Sale, in the south.

The Save the Children Fund received more than £5m in donations from the British public last year when the first reports of famine in Karamoja appeared. Since then, a relief operation has been built up in Karamoja, and the money has all been committed for continuing operations, according to Mr Mackay.

Mr Hua Guofeng gets some Army backing as doubts grow on economic policy and debunking of Mao

Power struggle renewed in Peking

From David Bonavia
Peking, Feb 4

As the Year of the Cockerel in the Chinese calendar replaces the Year of the Monkey, uncertainty reigns as to the state of play in the unending power struggle between the top leaders.

Ordinary people seem glad not to have to bother themselves with affairs of state, preferring instead to enjoy the cigarettes, sweets, special foodstuffs, wines and spirits they have been stocking up. The Commerce Ministry has made a special effort to ensure that Peking is well supplied with high-class produce from many parts of the country.

Firecrackers splutter on the streets as families stroll out in below-freezing temperatures to visit relatives or attend special screenings of popular films.

The holiday—inappropriately renamed "Spring Festival"—makes it possible for married couples working in widely separated parts of the country to spend a week or two together.

But there are clear signs of yet another struggle for power in the upper ranks of the leadership. After the suspended death sentence on Jiang Qing, Mao Tse-tung's widow, and long prison terms for others denounced as "counter-revolutionaries", the country is badly in need of a more harmonious political and social life and an indication that the extraordinary twists and turns of economic planning have at last put China on the road towards prosperity and modernization.

It is more than six weeks since it was disclosed unofficially that Mr Hua Guofeng would step down soon from the party chairmanship, after his resignation from the office of Prime Minister last year.

Formalization of this resignation needs a plenary session of the party Central Committee unless normal procedural practice is to be discarded. Forecast for this month, the meeting is now understood to have been postponed until March and possibly longer.

Meanwhile, Mr Hua nominally holds the chairmanship and some sources have speculated that he may be holding out for another senior post, such as that of a deputy chairman, in exchange for giving up the other two posts gracefully.

Mr Hua is also reported to have enjoyed increasing support from some senior Army veterans, including Marshal Ye Jianying, who holds the position most equivalent to that of head of state (a post which does not exist in China).

The Army has been disturbed by doubts about the wisdom of the present economic policy and by its loss of prestige through the conviction of five former senior officers at the "trial of the 10". For decades the officers and troops have been schooled in the "people's war" concepts of Mao and of the late Lin Biao.

Many Army commanders are believed to be opposed to the further denunciation of Mao's policies.

On view again: Mr Hua today made his first public appearance after over two months' absence. The New China news agency reported that Mr Hua had met Mr Hoang Van Hoan, former vice-president of the Vietnamese National Assembly, who defected to China in 1979.

Mr Hua made his last public appearance on November 27, when he met Mr Ilie Verdet, visiting Romanian Prime Minister.

Nigerian coalition facing disarray

From Karan Thapar
Lagos, Feb 4

The coalition Government in Nigeria appears to be on the brink of collapse. There has been mounting distrust and acrimony between the partners, the President's National Party (NPN) and the Eastern Ibo-based Nigerian Peoples Party (NPP), for several weeks but yesterday's action by Mr Ralph Obioha, chairman of the House of Representatives finance committee, in taking the President to court is bringing matters to a head.

The immediate issue is the Revenue Allocation Bill signed into law only hours after the court action. Mr Obioha has asked the court to declare the outcome of last week's joint session of the National Assembly to determine the disputed principles of revenue allocation null and void. He also wants an injunction restraining President Shagari from giving his assent to the Bill.

The crisis comes after two months of surprising opposition by NPP MPs to the Bill which is supported by their own party's members of the Cabinet.

Under pressure from the three opposition parties to withdraw from the coalition, the NPP's two governors, of Anambra and Imo, have openly flirted with the so-called progressive group of nine opposition governors. Official party statements have gone so far as to criticize the Government.

United in its dislike of this exhibition of hostility, NPN senators met yesterday and unanimously agreed that they were in favour of breaking the coalition accord.

The Government, however, could still survive. The coalition agreement was negotiated after the 1979 elections which resulted in the NPN being the largest party in the two houses of the Assembly but without a clear majority. A similar accord was at the heart of the Tafawa Balewa Government, ousted in a coup in 1966, when the then Northern Prime Minister's party had the support of an earlier eastern Ibo party.

When civilian rule was resumed 16 months ago, the accord gave stability and helped to ease the naturally divisive forces that had emerged during the elections. Latent tribalism and the ambitions of individual members seem to have convinced both parties, however, that this "marriage of convenience" has outlasted its usefulness.

Two Britons murdered in Zimbabwe mission

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Feb 4

Two British missionaries were murdered at a school about 95 miles south-east of Salisbury last night by two men who forced their way into their bedroom.

Mr Donald Lale, aged 49, of Watford, Hertfordshire, died of head wounds after being beaten with a garden implement. His wife, Ann, aged 44, was shot dead.

The Lales, missionaries of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, were sent to teach at the Chitsengewesi Range mission school, near Inyazura, last month. The school was closed in the latter stages of the bush war and the Lales were the first whites to be assigned to the school since it reopened.

Police said that at about 9.30 pm last night two black civilians approached staff at the mission and asked: "Where are the Europeans?" The staff reported that one of the men was armed with a pistol and forced them to show the way to the Lales' room.

Sources at the mission said that Mrs Lale was shot when the men entered the room. Mr Lale ran from the room and was pursued to another room by one of the men who beat him to death in front of other mission teachers.

Reports thot the men claimed they were avenging the South African raid on Maputo on Friday in which members of the African National Congress were killed, were not confirmed.

Black staff at the mission also denied the report and said the men forced them to sing a guerrilla song.

A spokesman for the Seventh Day Adventist Church here said that there had been no previous racial incidents at the mission and that Inyazura, which is on the road between Salisbury and Umtali, had been regarded as a trouble-free area. The church had no plans to withdraw white missionaries from such areas.

Not surprised: The news was broken to Mrs Lale's parents, Mrs Elsie Smith and her husband Frank, at their home in Foxhill, Watford, last night.

Mrs Smith said they were not very surprised when a church minister told them what happened. "We were always half expecting this to happen. It was at the back of our minds because they were in a dangerous area."

The Lales had two sons, Andrew, aged 14, and Timothy, aged 17, who are now in England.

World View — by Arrigo Levi

Historic achievement of social democracy

So, after all, social-democracy works. As a careful reader of *The Times* and a science-fan, I discovered in a recent article by Dr Tony Smith on "the child-death cycle" a piece of information which struck a deep chord in my political conscience.

"Since 1976," Dr Smith wrote, "measurement of children's heights (in Sweden) has shown no differences either between social classes or between regions. Every child grows to its full genetic potential."

Such an epoch-making event deserves some further comment. The fact that, for the first time in history, a nation has been able "to give all its children an optimum physical environment" can be seen as a point of arrival for a history which began many ages ago: not with modern socialism, but possibly with the Judeo-Christian idea that all men are equal before God.

But in practice it was the modern social-democratic movement that set in motion policies aiming at providing equality of opportunities for all man's children. I am not referring to individual parties, or to present political controversies, since social-democracy took different names at different times. The labels changed: the Welfare State, the New Deal, the Great Society, and so on. All these (and the related ones of the mixed economy, *Le Plan*, etc) are today somewhat unpopular in many countries.

From right and left, the failures and limits of social democracy are being severely criticized, often justly: there are many good reasons for pointing out these failings and looking for remedies. But if *even in one single country*, ruled for so long by social-democracy, the great goal mentioned above has been achieved, social democracy as a whole is historically vindicated.

Where Sweden has gone, others will surely follow. After all, until a couple of generations ago, Sweden was not a rich country, and it went through some furious social conflicts before trying that great experiment in social cooperation and the welfare state (in a mainly market economy) which has now brought equality to all new-born children.

Of course, Sweden is a small country and a compact society: others face much bigger problems. But which political doctrine and policy, other than social democracy, can claim such a success?

Neo-liberal, right-wing critics of the welfare state and of excessive government, rightly point out that these things depress individual enterprise and slow down growth. By all means, let us put limits to government interference and excessive taxation. But undoing the welfare state is really as unthinkable today as going back to voting rights only for the rich.

Left-wing critics of social democracy deplore the fact that nowhere has it led to "socialism": Herr Helmut Schmidt, they claim, is not a socialist, just as Attlee was not a socialist. I do not doubt the sincerity of those who desperately want to discover new roads to socialism, as a society where total freedom and perfect equality for all are achieved.

What worries me is that these searchers for a new socialist policy (they include the left wing of most European socialist parties, as well as Italy's Eurocommunists), while denying any intention to imitate Soviet Russia, since communism destroys political freedom without bringing about social equality, often make suggestions which point in the direction of Soviet state-capitalism: which is the economic foundation of Soviet authoritarianism.

Of course, history will go forward and new roads to a fully democratic society (call it socialist if you want) may be found, different from the one which has been followed during the social democratic era in Europe and America. But at least this has brought about *consistent, though uneven* progress towards those goals, to the point of one *leading country being able*, since 1976, to allow all its children "to grow to their full genetic *potential*".

Later in life even Swedish children may not yet be able to achieve as fully their social potential. But the equality of "genetic opportunities" (something which the fathers of socialism did not think or even dream about) is in itself a stupendous historic achievement. If only one country has so far reached this goal, all others participating in this race can feel comforted: they are behind, but on the right track.

But do not let us forget that most countries still have a long way to go before reaching even this partial goal. Would it not be foolish to tire too soon and to decide to try other uncertain paths, which may lead far away from the post, distant but already in sight?

Transkei in opposition to homeland

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 4

Trouble has broken out between prospective partners in the constellation of states which Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, hopes will one day take in most of southern and central Africa. The news that Ciskei has accepted Pretoria's invitation to become the fourth independent black homeland has met with hostility from its larger neighbour to the north, Transkei.

Together the two homelands account for most of the Xhosa-speaking people in southern Africa. Transkei, with a population of about three million, was declared independent in 1976. Ciskei, with about one million, at first refused to separate itself from South Africa but last year Chief Lennox Sebe, its Prime Minister, agreed to accept independence if at the same time his country entered into a confederation with South Africa. This, he felt, would give it greater freedom of action.

US takes derelict Somali base

From Marie-Thérèse Delboulbes
of Agence France-Presse
Mogadishu, Feb 4

The former Soviet military base at Berbera in Somali has undergone a dramatic change of ownership and will soon reopen under United States management.

There are only a dozen American soldiers at the moment, drinking Coca Cola imported from The Netherlands in a lonely bar overlooking the Red Sea under a sign declaring "Long live USA-Somali friendship".

The base consists of derelict buildings and installations abandoned by the Russians when they were ordered out at short notice in 1977. The base is in the middle of a desert, with bushes and pine trees, bordered by a chain of hills.

The Somalis, living in a state of tension for the past five years, must have breathed a sigh of relief when President Ronald Reagan entered the White House.

Last August 24 an accord was signed between Washington and Mogadishu under which the United States could have air and naval facilities in the former Soviet base at Berbera. But since then nothing very much has changed in the tiny town which faces Aden on the other coast of the Red Sea.

The gigantic petrol tanks are bone-dry—petrol is strictly rationed here—and the port is waiting sleepily either for foreign aid for refugees in the hinterland or the camels and goats from the interior, Somalia's main exports, to be shipped to the Gulf.

Repair work on the air base's landing strip, the longest in Africa, has not even started. The cost of bringing the port and air base facilities up to modern military requirements is estimated at about $11m (£4.5m), for practically everything will have to brought here, including many skilled workers.

So far as the man-in-the-street is concerned, the new alliance with the Americans has been a disappointment—a packet of imported cigarettes has soared to $4.

The initial American contingent will number only about 300 and will concentrate on serving as a communications and coordinating unit for the rapid deployment force in Nevada and its likely operational area in the Indian Ocean.

Months of uncertainty have made the Somalis nervous. They live with the nightmare of seeing Ethiopian troops pour from the Ogaden province towards Berbera, which is less than 180 miles from the frontier, using an excellent highway.

Mr Muhammad Seed Muhammad, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, said last week that 100,000 Ethiopian troops, supported by several thousand Russians and Cubans, were massed along Somalia's north-west frontier, threatening Berbera, and in the central region where Somalia's "waist" is narrowest.

The minister claimed that Ethiopia's object was to cut Somalia in half, isolating the former British Somaliland protectorate. (Somalia became independent in 1960 as a result of a merger between British Somaliland and the Italian trusteeship territory of Somalia).

The Somalis will remain tense and nervous, aware of their isolated position in the Horn of Africa, until the arrival of the Americans and the rapid deployment force.

Seoul given promise of F16 fighters

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 4

As a further indication of its strong desire to improve relations with South Korea, the new Administration here is preparing to sell that country the sophisticated F16 fighter aircraft it has long desired.

According to Administration sources quoted by the *Washington Post* today, a request for formal approval to sell 36 of the aircraft will be submitted to Congress shortly. President Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea was informed of the Administration's willingness to let his Government have the F16 during his visit to Washington this week.

The pending sale is in line with the defence commitment made by President Reagan in the final communiqué published after his talks with president Chun on Monday. The communiqué said that the United States would "make available for sale appropriate weapons systems and defence industry technology necessary for enhancing Korea's capabilities to deter aggression". Mr Reagan also promised to keep American troops in South Korea as long as they were needed there.

Before leaving Washington for the final leg of his visit to the United States in Hawaii, President Chun promised that his Government would continue to liberalize his country's press and civil rights laws. Nevertheless democracy in his country was still "weak" and required the exercise of firm authority, he explained.

In a speech to the National Press Club here, the South Korean leader also reiterated his recent invitation to President Kim Il Sung of North Korea to come to Seoul to discuss ways of resolving the long conflict between them. Such a meeting could foster "an atmosphere of trust and understanding" between the north and south of the Korean peninsular, he said.

Supreme Court orders Bihar to free prisoners

Delhi, Feb 4.—India's Supreme Court today ordered the release of all prisoners in the northern state of Bihar who have been held without trial for more than five years.

The court also ruled that the state government should provide free legal aid to the people who are numbered in thousands.

The court was ruling on an application by eight prisoners who were kept without an opportunity for a court trial, for eight years in various Bihar jails.—AP.

Hongkong adviser

Hongkong, Feb 4.—Mr Robin McLaren, head of the Far Eastern Department in the Foreign Office, will be Hongkong's next political adviser, succeeding Dr David Wilson in October.

Peru calls for demarcation of border with Ecuador

Lima, Feb 4.—Peru has called for demarcation of its border with Ecuador along the disputed 50-mile mountainous stretch where the armed forces of the two countries battled for five days last week.

Señor Felipe Osterling, Peru's acting Foreign Minister, said yesterday that military observers from the United States and three other nations confirmed that a ceasefire was holding in the area. There was no independent report of their findings.

Señor Osterling said: "The only thing we did was to oust the invaders from our territory and reestablish peace in our Zone. The next step — and we are sure that they will agree — is to place the border markers along our frontier to keep these incidents from ever happening again."

The placement of border markers along the crest of the Condor mountain range about 800 miles north of Lima began after a border war between the two countries in 1941 and a treaty signed in 1942 in Rio de Janeiro establishing the boundary.

The demarcation stopped in 1951, leaving the 50-mile gap, when President Galo Plaza Lasso of Ecuador declared the treaty void. He said the discovery of the Cenepa river in the area gave Ecuador the right to additional territory on the eastern slopes that would give it access to the Maranon and Amazon rivers.

Peru's ground and air forces went into action last Wednesday against three military posts which Ecuador established last month on the Peruvian side of the border as defined by the 1942 treaty.

Both sides reported the fighting ended on Sunday, and Peru claimed to have driven the Ecuadoreans from all three posts. This was confirmed by a Peruvian news photographer who toured the area that day in a Peruvian army helicopter.

The United States, Argentina, Brazil and Chile sent military attachés from their embassies in Lima and Quito to the Condor as ceasefire observers because they were guarantors and cosigners of the 1942 treaty.—AP.

Perón charge is dropped

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, Feb 4

A federal judge today cleared Señora Perón, the former Argentine President, of one of four charges remaining against her for mishandling government funds.

Judge Martin Anzoategui said in announcing his decision that while Señona Perón deserved to be reprimanded for the mishandling of presidential funds, he did not consider that the use of the funds to buy "jewels, works of art, up to a kilo of sweets or 200 grammes of ham" in itself constituted a crime.

Over a hundred people gathered outside the San Vicente residence where Señora Perón is being held by the Armed Forces to wish her a happy fiftieth birthday.

Señor Lazaro Rocca, the president of the National Justicialist (*Perónist*) Ccouncil, said he hoped all charges against the former President would be dropped soon "tomorrow, if possible. If this continues, it could cause (her) new health problems."

Fights man says $200m is missing

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Feb 4

Mr Harold Smith, the Los Angeles boxing promoter who is being sued by the Wells Fargo Bank of California for the recovery of $21.3m (£9.14m), emerged last night and claimed that he fled from his home because bank officials were trying to kill him.

He also alleged that the missing funds from the bank totalled between $200 and $300m.

Mr Smith, chairman of the Muhammad Ali Professional Sports Company which has been promoting fights in the United States, made his accusations in telephone calls to radio and television stations in Los Angeles and to *The New York Times*.

He said that the former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali had nothing to do with the scandal that has rocked the boxing world (Ali receives $25,000 each times Mr Smith uses his name in a promotion). Mr Smith said he and his family ran in fear of their lives after it became known that an embezzlement investigation was taking place and he claimed that his four-year-old son John was kidnapped by armed men.

In a telephone call last night to a Los Angeles radio sports reporter, Mr Smith said that now his family was safe in Switzerland he would return to the United States "to get even with some of the things we've been wrongly accused of."

"I've learned we're not talking about $21m we're talking about two hundred million, three hundred million that's going to reach about 15 bank managers and about 20 different officers in about 20 different banks throughout California for Wells Fargo. And I think once I do what I'm going to do, and I know they are out to try and stop me, because they tried to kill me and my family before I left."

Exit Ali, page 12

Thatcher promise verified in Trudeau letter

By Our Political Staff

Clarifying a point that was raised with Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, during exchanges in the Canadian House of Commons on Tuesday, officials in London yesterday confirmed that Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, wrote a letter to Mr Trudeau in December about the Canadian constitutional proposals.

The federal Government is asking for a revised constitution to be endorsed by the British Parliament in spite of opposition from eight of the 10 provincial Governments of Canada.

Mr Trudeau has said that in June last year Mrs Thatcher told him that she would impose a three-line whip in the Commons to ensure that the Canadian proposals were approved.

MPs who are concerned that Parliament at Westminster should exercise its rights as trustee of the federal structure of Canada, argue that if the federal Government cannot get the agreement of a substantial majority of provincial Governments, MPs will have the right and duty to propose amendments.

Commonwealth threat: The British Government warned the Canadian Government last December that differences over the constitutional plan of Mr Trudeau could damage Anglo-Canadian relations and risk the future of the Commonwealth, according to the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, (John Best writes from Ottawa).

The newspaper reported today in a front page story that Mr Francis Pym, then the British Defence Minister and now Leader of the House of Commons, told Mr Trudeau and Dr Mark MacGuigan, Canada's External Affairs Minister, that the constitutional package was in "appalling difficulties" in London. It might not be adopted by the British Parliament.

The report was based on minutes of a December 19 conversation here between Dr MacGuigan and Mr Pym, which the *Globe and Mail* said it obtained. The minutes were "prepared by Canadian sources".

"The British were so concerned that Mr Pym warned that the Canadian request and possible British refusal or long delay might risk bilateral relations, the future of the Commonwealth and international relations generally", the newspaper said.

The report adds to the accumulating evidence that Mrs Thatcher's Government has become extremely nervous about getting involved in the torrid constitutional debate now raging in Canada.

Under a resolution before the Canadian parliament—opposed by eight of Canada's provinces—Westminster would be asked to amend the British North America Act one final time and then surrender control over it to Canada.

The most controversial changes involve a proposed charter of rights for Canada and a formula for amending the constitution here in future.

A version of the Pym-MacGuigan minutes has also been obtained by the Conservative opposition in the Canadian Commons, and formed the basis of some barbed questions put to Mr Trudeau in the past two days by Tory MPs.

They appear to contradict the Prime Minister's repeated statements that he has Mrs Thatcher's assurance that she will put a three-line whip to get the patriation Bill through Westminster.

The *Globe and Mail* says Mr Pym repeatedly warned Dr MacGuigan that the British Government probably could not push the constitutional package through.

Mr Pym personally did not think the measure would be accepted by the British House of Commons. He also reported that senior British ministers in the House of Lords doubted the package could get through the Lords either. He quoted Lord Soames as saying the package "ain't going to go".

Inner London to keep its education authority but minister says it must put its house in order

House of Commons

The Inner London Education is not to be broken up, Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in a statement. But he made it clear that the authority must exercise financial restraint.

Mr Carlisle said: The ILEA is the largest local education authority in England. Among such authorities its composition is unique. It precepts freely and without restraint on the ratepayers of the inner London boroughs and the City of London. In practice it spends much more money per pupil than any other English authority without thereby achieving a satisfactory performance for many of its schools, particularly its secondary schools as was shown in Her Majesty's Inspectors' report on ILEA.

The purpose of the inquiry was to see whether this situation could be improved by altering the constitutional arrangements for providing education in inner London.

The fundamental issue for the inquiry was whether ILEA should be broken up. There is a case for giving some responsibility for education to the inner London boroughs. There is also a case for retaining a single authority in the light of London's past development and its system of local government. But the overriding factors are educational and financial.

The weight of educational opinion, including the voluntary bodies and the churches, is that the problems of inner London call for a single authority of adequate size and with adequate resources to administer its schools as well as further and higher education, and the careers service; and that responsibility for the schools should not be separated from the rest of education. The Government share that view.

This does not mean that the single authority has to be extravagant. That was one of the lessons to be learnt from the HMI report. The Government's public expenditure plans require local authority current expenditure on education in England to go down by about 7 per cent in real terms between 1978-79 and 1981-82. ILEA has not made the response which could reasonably have been expected from an authority whose expenditure exceeds its needs by far more than any other education authority, on the basis of assessment used for the distribution of block grant.

It is apparently planning to spend next year almost as much in real terms as it did in 1978-79 although between 1978-79 and 1981-82 ILEA's pupil numbers will have fallen by some 13 per cent.

In that event ILEA would be likely to receive very little grant in 1981-82. The reason is simple. The block grant system ensures that an authority which acts irresponsibly cannot do so at the expense either of the taxpayers or of the ratepayers of authorities beyond its boundaries.

The long-term retention of the single education authority for inner London is justified only if the authority shows that it can give the children and students of inner London a good service in all phases of education at an acceptable cost. It is up to ILEA to put its house in order.

It must recognize that the right to precept entails the obligation to spend responsibly. If ILEA systematically abuses the rating system by unchecked extravagance, additional financial controls will be needed. The Government are now considering what further measures they would take to meet that situation.

Mr Neil Kinnock, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Bedwellty, Lab), questioning Mr Carlisle on the statement, said: Together with millions of parents, children, teachers and others concerned with education in London we are relieved rather than grateful for this statement.

His announcement of the obvious and sensible is spoilt by the grudging and graceless way he has made his statement and by the insults and threats that further disfigure it.

Why was it necessary to go through the spurious exercise of the Baker report and the desperate effort to find some way of justifying Tory prejudice against ILEA? Was it because of the view of a few Tory-controlled Inner London boroughs who want to secede from their responsibilities for funding education in London or because of the Prime Minister's obsessive dislike of ILEA and her determination to break it up?

HMI commended many schools, teachers and practices of ILEA in its schools and elsewhere. Why did he not see fit to echo that commendation?

Will any complaints he has about the standards of education in ILEA be improved by the £200m cut he wants to make in ILEA through the ridiculous system of the block grant. Expenditure in ILEA per pupil is higher because the needs are greater in this vast city than in many other parts of the country.

On the block grant, ILEA calculates its needs for the next year at £694m net of the effect of falling rolls. Does he think that the Government's calculation that all they need is £226m less — a 27 per cent cut — can be defended on any ground?

Even if we use the Government figure of £596m as the amount that could be allocated to ILEA, it would still lose £60m and would not, in the words of the chief education officer and many others, discharge its legal education responsibility.

If the Secretary of State lectures ILEA about abuses and errors, how much more irresponsible would it be for them to fail to discharge their legal obligations?

But for the resistance of ILEA and its members to the effect of the cuts the Government has imposed, it would not be a question of putting their house in order; it would be a question of the demolition of education and standards of education in inner London as we now know them.

Mr Carlisle: I do not accept his statement about insults and prejudice towards inner London. I have to recognize the concern that existed in inner London both about its expenditure and the nature of its educational performance in certain areas.

To say that is being insulting and using prejudice is to ignore the concern of many thousands of parents in inner London.

The internal Government inquiry was set up because it was a response to the concern that has been expressed from time to time about inner London and because the 1963 Act, in setting ILEA up, proposed it should be reviewed at the end of a 10 year period.

Anyone reading the HMI report would recognize that while it paid tribute to the standard of ILEA in further and higher education, it was somewhat critical of special schools, in part of primary schools, and of the performance of secondary schools.

The greatest help he could give to the children of inner London would be support what HMI said and encourage those running ILEA to learn the message of that report.

The grant-related system is based on the same system throughout the country and takes into account varying social needs. Expenditure per pupil in inner London was substantially in excess of that in other inner city areas.

He said the ILEA promised to spend £694m this year. If that is so, it means that despite a 13 per cent drop in the number of pupils, despite the economic climate, they have not made any attempt to save a single penny in real terms on expenditure of three years ago.

This is at a time when almost every other authority, Labour as well as Conservative, throughout the country are attempting to make savings. It is a pity he should apparently give support to those proposals.

Of course I do not believe a 27 per cent cut is possible in a single year. I accept the historical pattern of spending in London has been far greater than in other areas.

But if ILEA were to look seriously at their budget against the background of dropping numbers, they could make savings, the effect of which would be that for every £7m of savings they would get an additional £4m grant from the Government.

Mr Ronald Brown (Hackney, South and Shoreditch, Lab): In my constituency they propose to close three schools. If the minister really wishes to investigate ILEA he should set up an inquiry.

He used his own party's machine, through the so-called Baker report, to make an unwarranted attack on ILEA on false information. He has now made the right decision but in the wrong way.

Mr Carlisle: He is not quite right. The committee which produced the report was a party committee producing a party report. But the Government then decided, arising out of that and the general concern, to hold its own internal investigation at governmental level, and it was the result of this that he was announcing, not the result of the party review.

The figures of falling numbers in Hackney are enormous.

Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C): Will he continue to work to solve the precepting problem. ILEA's precepting powers mean that in Putney my constituents have to pay a 25 per cent rate increase, when ILEA's rolls are falling, because of their financial irresponsibility.

It should be made clear to the political ILEA masters that he will continue to take an interest in their activities, particularly because of their manifesto commitment to abolish streaming in secondary schools, abolish single-sex and denominational education and recognize the Trotskyist National Union of School Students.

Mr Carlisle: On precepting, I have made clear that the Government is concerned if ILEA is to use its power to abuse the rate system. The Secretary of State for the Environment is considering, in the context of his review of the rating system generally, what extra steps should be taken in relation to those local authorities, including ILEA, whose expenditure is excessive.

I would have thought it a fair point, at a time when concern is expressed about the pressure on the private sector of our economy, to remind rating authorities that a high proportion of that which they precept is falling on business and industry.

One is appalled at some proposals apparently in the Labour Party's draft manifesto.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L): He must be pleased that on this occasion he has defeated the Prime Minister who, along with a number of Conservative MPs, was determined to break up the education system of inner London. If he is worried about accountability, he should have a directly-elected ILEA.

Mr Carlisle: I do not accept what he said. We reviewed the whole of the working in inner London and the decision to retain a unitory authority was a decision of the whole Government.

Whereas it might be thought a directly-elected authority increases democratic control, it weakens financial control if that directly-elected authority is going to have no means of assessing expenditure on education.

Mr Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton, C): Can he confirm that he is keeping ILEA under closer review because although there may be overriding education reasons for maintaining the present structure, there are many who are not satisfied with the education and believe that ILEA is not sufficiently accountable financially and politically in a democratic and direct way?

Mr Carlisle: I can confirm that we believe that the continuation of ILEA depends on its educational standards and its financial responsibility.

Mr Frank Dobson (Camden, Holborn and St Pancras, South, Lab): While those parents who like myself send their children to inner London schools welcome his belated decision not to dismember ILEA, they will be fearful of the later part of his statement which seems to suggest he is too frightened to dismember it but intends to starve it to death.

Mr Carlisle: Anybody who represents inner London and who is concerned about things such as the level of unemployment, particularly among the young, would recognize that those who have the right to precept on others' rates also have responsibility directly to realize that they should not do too much to create a burden on those shoulders.

Prudent councils facing rate grant problems

London's share of rate support grant was still at a higher level this year than it was in any year prior to 1978-79, Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said when questioned on the reaction of London local authorities to the 1981-82 settlement.

Mr King (Bridgwater, C) said the settlement was a tough one. It involved a 3 per cent volume reduction for every authority in the country. It did involve a 1 per cent reduction of grant. Both these were heavy problems for a considerable number of local authorities.

It did involve some shift in the share of grant for London against the last two years which posed problems for a number of authorities.

Mr Edward Graham, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Enfield, Edmonton, Lab): What advice would he give to a London borough like Enfield which is Tory controlled and has spent the last two years in faithfully following every dictate and whim of the minister, yet finds that at the end of the day it has, with other London boroughs, received this additional London tax.

Would he invite the London borough of Enfield to send representatives to Marsham Street so that he can tell his political friends that the result of their devotion to his policies has been this additional kick in the teeth?

Mr King: The share of grant London receives is higher than the level it received in the last three years of the Labour Government.

The advice I would give to Enfield and every borough and council in the country, and their ratepayers, is that their interests are far better served by a prudent and responsible council which seeks to minimize expenditure and that the long-term interests of the ratepayers will be severely jeopardized by those councils that do not follow that advice.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): Where is the sense in cutting back the rate support grant forcing local authorities to cut back in the private and public sector and simply transferring money to the Department of Employment in larger payouts at lengthening dole queues.

That is crazy economics and makes nonsense for people joining dole queues.

Mr King: The number joining the dole queue will be influenced by the attitude of local authorities as to the level of rates.

I would think Mr Cryer is thanking his lucky stars his constituency is in West Yorkshire who have decided to make a 25 per cent reduction in rates and to cut bus subsidies and managed to freeze fares for the past 17 months as opposed to living in South Yorkshire where the Labour-controlled county council is going to spend £65m subsidising bus fares with a result that industrialists will face a 42 per cent rate increase.

Mr John Hunt (Bromley Ravensbourne, C): Bromley has a long and proud tradition of prudent housekeeping. Because of the rate support grant settlement, there is now talk of a 30 per cent rates increase next year.

Local authorities which have always followed sound Conservative policies should be rewarded and encouraged rather than penalized in this way.

Mr King: There is a problem for London councils this year in that in previous years their share increased from 13.3 per cent to 17 per cent of the national share. Other authorities had a corresponding diminution. We think that that shift of grant was excessive on an assessment of need. This has resulted in some shift back of the grant.

It is still high in historic terms, but I appreciate this year it poses some problems for a number of London authorities.

New towns should rely on private investment

In all six of the third generation new towns, development corporations would be expected to rely substantially on private sector investment, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

Replying to several questions, Mr Heseltine (Henley, C) said that he had completed his examination of the third generation new towns. Public sector funding would be restricted to the minimum needed to support further growth.

He continued: In the case of Northampton and Central Lancashire new towns, the Government considers that the aim should be to wind up the development corporations on December 31, 1984, and December 31, 1985, respectively.

By these dates, the population of Northampton should be of the order of 170,000 and that of the designated area of Central Lancashire new town about 270,000.

I shall be consulting the local authorities concerned about the implications for them of these target dates.

The development corporations of the other four new towns should be wound up in the late 1980s. By that time the population of Milton Keynes is likely to be of the order of 150,000, that of Peterborough, 150,000, of Telford 130,000, and of Warrington, 160,000.

All these figures should not, however, be considered as targets. The rate of population growth will depend essentially on the rate of demand for private housebuilding and the willingness of the private sector to invest.

New gas levy to raise £1,300m in three years

The Government's proposed levy on the British Gas Corporation was expected to raise £130m in 1980-81, £420m in 1981-82 and £750m in 1982-83, Mr Norman Lamont, Under Secretary for Energy, said late last night when he moved a Ways and Means motion to provide for the levy.

Mr Lamont (Kingston upon Thames, C) said the Gas Levy Bill would bring the levy into effect. The aim was to recover the gain on those gas purchases by the corporation which were exempt from petroleum revenue tax. It would be for the benefit of the country generally.

The levy would have no effect on domestic or industrial gas prices.

The motion was approved and the Bill was introduced and formally read a first time.

Over 55 pc of houses are owner-occupied

During the course of 1980 the number of owner-occupied dwellings in Britain rose above the 55 per cent mark for the first time, Mr John Stanley, Minister for Construction, said when replying to criticism about the level of local authority housing starts.

He said that in the last 12 months for which they had figures, improvements to private houses had been the highest since 1975, improvements to council houses had been the highest since 1973 and improvements to housing association dwellings had been one of the highest ever.

Abandoning the gallon

Mr Matthew Parris (West Derbyshire, C) was given leave to bring in a Bill to make subject to parliamentary approval any change in the system of measuring petrol.

He said the major oil companies planned to abandon the gallon later this year. They were free by law to do so and had substantial reasons for doing so which the House might or might not accept. At present it had no say. The Bill gave the House the final say.

The Bill was read a first time.

Years of state investment in BL showing some results

Control of British Leyland is to be transferred from the National Enterprise Board to the Secretary of State for Industry on March 31, Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State for Industry, announced.

Mr Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford, C) was moving the first of a series of Government amendments to accommodate decisions on the corporate plan for BL announced by Sir Keith Joseph on January 26.

He had then said that he had approved the corporate plan and had agreed to fund the first two years: £621m in 1981-82 and £370m in 1982-83.

He had also announced the Government intention that the public shareholding in British Leyland should be transferred from the National Enterprise Board to the Secretary of State after the Bill received Royal Assent.

The amendments made the necessary adjustments in the financial limits of the NEB and the Secretary of State to accommodate the decision.

The first two amendments reduced the NEB limit to £750m which should give them plenty of room as the NEB disposed of its assets.

Two later amendments increased the Secretary of State's borrowing limit to £4,400m with a power to increase it to £5,250m by order. Of that, £2,900m, increasable by order to £3,250m was in respect of British Leyland and the balance of £1,500m increasable by order to £2,000m was for Rolls-Royce.

These sums were much larger than the £990m needed for British Leyland over the next two years because they also covered external lending from private sources.

He knew it was tempting to think that selling off currently profitable parts of BL would at least reduced the cash call on the Government and it was something the Government had looked at closely.

But the Government and the board of BL were convinced that those parts of the business were vital to attract the collaboration with other manufacturers which was the long-term objective of the company if it was to survive.

The Government considered carefully the implications of not giving support to the plan. It was apparent that would not be a no-cost route. How many jobs would be lost if BL were to close was a matter of judgment and although the figure of one million mentioned in the House last week was absurd there was no doubt that the number would be considerable. Job losses on such a scale cost the taxpayer money.

Those were weighty considerations but not overwhelmingly so, and if at any time the Government became convinced that BL did not have a possible viable future, the Government would not shrink from taking the appropriate action, costly though it may be to the taxpayer.

So the Government's decision whether to back the BL turned on whether BL had a reasonable chance of achieving its objections.

The Government concluded BLs poor financial results last year were largely due to economic factors beyond its control.

Many years of investment at the taxpayers' expense were now showing some results. To give the company the chance of success now, they could not let it rest on its laurels with one or two new successful projects. There was need for a new medium-range car, strengthening the other range of products, and funding for restructuring. The radical reorganization of the business was not yet complete and there was a lot of ground to make up.

If it was shown that assumptions in the plan were so far out that it was incapable of being carried out—this contingency had been discussed between the company and the Government—the plan would have to be reviewed.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on industry (Salford, West, Lab) said the £980m gave BL a breathing space to get over its difficulties.

It seemed that, taking in other industries affected, a BL closure would cost between 700,000 and a million jobs. A married man with two children cost the country about £6,000 a year if he were out of work.

To sell off one or more of the BL divisions would injure the whole company and would not necessarily benefit the taxpayer.

It would be wrong, having put in taxpayers' money, when British Leyland started making a profit to sell off parts of the company. The taxpayers were entitled to a share in the profits.

It was essential that the motor company should survive. It would be wrong to split it up. It was in Britain's interest to make the company successful and it could be successful. The corporate plan, accepted by the Government, was workable.

The present exchange rate could be disastrous for British Leyland and also for the private and public sector. Many companies could close. The Government had a responsibility to see what the exchange rate was doing to British industry and to take some action.

The Opposition were gravely concerned about the role of the National Enterprise Board and the Government's attitude to it. The board should be expanded, and not reduced.

The recent slump in manufacturing output was greater than in any other industrialized nation. There was a need for action and intervention.

If they were not careful British industry would be unable to recover. When the up-turn came the skilled labour and manufacturing capacity would be lacking. That must be of serious concern to everybody: It was time that the Government took action.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West Surrey, C) said many of the sort of problems which British Leyland had so far not succeeded in solving would not be solved by money. Too much of the money that had gone to Leyland over the past five years had gone to meet losses and those losses had gone up.

British Leyland still had too many people. That was not to under-estimate Sir Michael Edwardes' sucess in reducing the overall manpower without having a major bust-up, but he had to go much further.

When these gigantic sums were being invested there had to be careful monitoring. He hoped the Government would tell BL it would be watching it closely and would report to the House during the time of the new Leyland plan so that MPs as guardians of the taxpayers' money would at least have some idea of what was going on.

Mr George Park (Coventry, North-East, Lab) said that Government departments seemed to be falling over themselves to tighten the noose round the neck of industry. Research and development could not be carried out unless there was skill and ability.

The decision to allow Nissan to develop in Britain was fraught with difficulty. Instead of introducing this Japanese Trojan horse would it not make more sense to give assistance to multinational companies already established?

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C) said that there must be concern about the nature of the Nissan project. It had been stated that there would be 200,000 vehicles produced which was nearly half British Leyland's world-wide production. Where was the market for that one model, let alone the second which must be envisaged by the size of the proposed plant?

Tory MPs urge that value of child benefit should be maintained

The Opposition motion on poverty was rejected on Tuesday night by 304 votes to 258—Government majority, 46 and the Opposition amendment carried by 290 votes to 255—Government majority, 35.

During the later stages of the debate.

Mr William Waldegrave (Bristol, West, C) said that the great Tory tradition of one state had to mean something in a recession or it meant nothing at all. The Chancellor should restore the value of child benefit to what it was when the Government came to power.

The coherent theme which the Conservative Party developed to link the different parts of its social policy, the family theme, would be lost if the effectiveness of the child benefit was allowed to diminish too far.

Mr Clement Freud (Isle of Ely, L) said it had been asked where the money should come from to help the poor and needy. The assisted places scheme was an obscene way of advantaging the advantaged at the direct cost of those children who most needed extra money in the maintained sector. Windfall profits of the banks could be taxed.

Mr Thomas Benyon (Abingdon, C) said the Government had an obligation to raise child benefit in line with other personal allowances. There should be no greater priority among these allowances. If this was not done to the fullest level it would be an admission by government that its central policy had collapsed. It would be wrong cynically to betray election pledges.

Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab) said special investigatory teams were visiting families to ascertain if they were getting benefits by fraud or abuse and were persuading them by any method to come off benefit. Managers were telling DHSS staff that their promotion prospects would depend on how many people they could get off benefit, just as policemen's promotion was based on the number of prosecutions they brought.

These policies were being forced on to the DHSS by the Government (he said) are a disgrace to a civilized society and goes against natural justice.

Mr Robin Squire (Havering, Hornchurch, C) said child benefit was the single easiest and greatest way to help people.

We should be ashamed (he said) that in January the child benefit level was lower in real terms than the sums paid when Winston Churchill was Prime Minister in the early fifties.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Bar, Lab) said Mr Jenkin's speech could be seen as an application to be the next Chancellor. The frightening thing was that he could succeed.

There had been a great unison in the debate against the Government.

Poverty had increased since 1979 as a result of the Government's policies. There was no better example that things had gone from bad to worse since 1979 than that published last week about the Salvation Army in Lincolnshire setting up a soup kitchen for schoolchildren because the local authority had abolished school meals and the local fish and chip shop shut on Mondays.

Mr Hugh Rossi, Minister for Social Security (Haringey, Hornsey, C) said that the Government's policy was succeeding because the rate of inflation for the last six months was below 10 per cent and still falling.

The standard of living had risen by nearly 2 per cent. The Government was spending £20,000m a year on social security; which was a quarter of all public expenditure. Upgrading added a further £3,000m in a full year. It was rubbish to say that those measures were undermining the welfare state.

The DHSS had allocated £103,000 for the secretariat of the voluntary organizations' committee for the year and discussions were taking place on a larger amount which could be allocated for the whole of 1981. The main thrust of the international year would be borne by voluntary organizations.

The Department of the Environment had given a grant to set up a competition among architects to produce a design best suited to the needs of the disabled. Access for disabled people was important.

Overall spending on personal social services was being maintained at a level 4 per cent higher than in 1978-79.

Need for caution in reform of rates

The Government must be careful not to replace the domestic rating system with something equally open to criticism, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions.

He told Mr David Knox (Leek, C): We are currently examining all potential alternatives to the domestic rating system. There are, of course, major issues involved. It is not yet possible to indicate when we shall be able to make a further statement.

Mr Knox: The system is unjust. Is the current review proceeding quickly enough?

Mr Heseltine (Henley, C): The present rating system has great injustices in it and it is because we share his view that we gave the commitment to introduce changes. We have made it clear that because of the changed circumstances between 1974-79, a different rate of priority has had to be applied, while we pursued our public spending programmes.

Mr Kenneth Marks (Manchester, Gorton, Lab) If the Tories talk about abolishing domestic rates that promise will be just as worthless as that on VAT and prescription charges

Mr Heseltine: We keep our promises. (Labour laughter.)

Mr David Hunt (Wirral, C): The system has so many anomalies that abolition is the only answer. Another local tax would merely be another administrative tier. No time will ever be the best but the system should be replaced now.

Mr Heseltine: I agree, but one has to be sure that criticisms about the present system are not replaced by equally deeply-held criticisms about what we put in its place. There is a need for caution and proper consultation.

Mr Gordon Oakes, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Widnes, Lab): In the review, will he also examine the injustices of the rate support grant and explain why those authorities who held to his precepts and tried to sell council houses have come out worse?

Will any new system he devises be similar to the Chancellor's action in agreeing to reduce taxation at the expense of doubling VAT?

Mr Heseltine: Anomalies created in the distribution of taxpayers' support were a result of the arbitrary allocations made by Labour's Secretary of State for the Environment.

The real concern in the domestic rating system at the levels of domestic rates, is the unsustained expenditure levels which Mr Oakes and the Opposition are prepared to argue for.

Selling back property to former owners

The Government expected shortly to announce the outcome of consultations on the proposals published last September for widening the scope for offering back surplus property to former owners,

Mr Geoffrey Finsberg, Under Secretary for the Environment, said at question time.

Mr Kenneth Marks (Manchester, Gorton, Lab) asked what changes had occurred in the instructions given to the Property Services Agency about the disposal of airfields and other Government properties since May, 1979.

Mr Finsberg (Camden, Hampstead, C): The Secretary of State for the Environment stated on June 13, 1979, that surplus land should be offered for sale as soon as practicable and abolished the procedure whereby surplus Government land had first to be offered to other public authorities.

We published last September proposals for widening the scope for offering back surplus property to former owners and expect shortly to announce the outcome of consultations on those proposals.

The Property Services Agency has been acting on these proposals during the period of consultation.

Mr Marks: If the purpose was to reduce the public sector borrowing requirement why was Wisley airfield sold in such indecent haste to Lord Lytton at an agricultural price when an appeal had been lodged which, if successful, would raise the value of the land from a few hundred thousand to several million pounds?

Was this on the instructions of the Secretary of State?

Mr Finsberg: I gave a full explanation in the course of the adjournment debate on July 24 last of the circumstances which surrounded the sale of this property to the successor of the former owner.

Since then Mr Keith Wickenden (Dorking, C) has referred the matter to the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and a planning appeal is in train. It would not be appropriate to comment in detail at this stage.

EEC owes whisky producers £60m

House of Lords

About £18m a year in refunds was owed by the EEC to the Scotch whisky distillers, Earl Ferrers, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during a question on the EEC payments due to them.

Earl Ferrers: The agreement of the payment of refunds on Community cereals which are used in exported Scotch whisky was secured in the 1980 price fixing. We are pressing for early implementation of the Commission proposals which were presented in December last year.

The Earl of Kinnoull (C): Are the refunds retrospective, how far do they go, are they interest bearing, and when will they be paid?

Earl Ferrers: When we joined the Community, the Council of Ministers said that in the absence of an agreement on an alcohol regime by August 1, 1973, which was then being discussed, refunds under Protocol 19, which deals with cereals included in spirit drinks, would be paid from that date.

At the 1980 price fixing, as there had been no agreement on an alcohol regime, the Council decided, after pressure from the Minister of Agriculture (Mr Peter Walker), that as from January, 1981, refunds would be provided for cereals used in exported spirits under the cereals regime.

Approximately £18m per year would be the value of this and the retrospective value, which is a matter for discussion, we consider to be in the region of £60m.

Lord Davies of Leek (Lab): Does the EEC still owe the poor Scotch distillers money and, if so, what trade is the Common Market likely to get in view of the European MPs bouncing around South America at European taxpayers' expense?

Earl Ferrers: The answer to his first question is "yes". I am unable to give a satisfactory reply to his observation about MEPs bouncing around South America. (Laughter.)

Essential expenditure on coastal erosion

If a bit of England fell into the sea, England should pay for it, Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington, C) commented during questions.

He had asked if the Secretary of State for the Environment would list in order of priority the criteria established to determine the level of the rate support grant and if coastal erosion was on the list.

Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said it was not possible to list the criteria in order of priority. An indicator relating to expenditure on coast protection was included.

Mr Adley: Expenditure on coastal erosion should qualify as an essential rather than a desirable expenditure.

Mr King: He will be able to pursue his point more effectively under the present system as opposed to the previous system under which it was impossible to tell what sums were allocated for this purpose.

I am not satisfied with the present system which is the best that could be introduced this year. Owing to the lack of statistics on coastal erosion it does not take that factor fully into account.

I think there is scope for improvement. I hope Mr Adley will be able to make constructive suggestions.

Arrangements in hand for the sale of shares in British Aerospace

Lord Beswick, for the Opposition, opening a debate on the public sector of the economy, said he deeply and bitterly resented the unwarranted and damaging criticism constantly levelled at the public sector and by implication if not design, against those men and women who served in it.

He had in mind extravagant language which used words like horrific, debilitating, poisonous, voracious and most recently from the Prime Minister haemorrhage—all applied to productive enterprises and all as unwarranted as offensive.

This was sick language. It might serve to set up a scapegoat for the sad failure of economic policy but it obscured the real issues.

The Secretary of State for Industry (Sir Keith Joseph) had referred to nationalization as "one of the poisons in our economic system". He could more accurately and certainly more generously have substituted the word "stimulus" for poison.

The investment through the public sector had been, and still was, a most valuable stimulus to the private sector. Hundreds of private companies had benefited directly by the investment programmes of the public sector.

A list of 18 nationalized industries showed 15 as making a profit, totalling more than £1,900m. These industries showed export earnings of £2,881m.

While generalized criticism was both unwarrantable and destructive, in his view they had lessons to learn and improvements to make in the public sector.

Parliament or Whitehall should not try to impose a structure or corporate plan on an industry. Similarly, it was a mistake for Parliament to try to impose a pattern of industrial democracy.

Lord Rochester (L) said the Liberals recognized the value of a properly balanced and integrated mixed economy in which the public sector became more efficient and the private sector more profitable.

This was not to say that the balance between the two sectors should remain in its present form immutably. The process of restructuring some of the most basic industries still had a long way to go.

The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, said the public sector was over-extended and less efficient than it might be and the resources it claimed from governments, including this Government, were contributing towards Britain's present inflation.

The Government's purpose was to reduce it in size wherever possible and where industries remained in the public sector, the Government was determined that they should operate more efficiently and be more responsive to the needs of the taxpayer and the community.

The burdens the nationalized industries imposed on government resources were inherent in them and were not usually the fault of those who ran them.

I do not know (he said) of instances where ministers have been publically snide or critical of the dedicated men who run the nationalized industries.

In the absence of market pressures, the Government had to provide the spur to the improvement in performance necessary if the industries were to turn from wealth consumers into wealth creators.

Wherever it could, the Government tried to diminish the monopoly position of the industries and open them up to competition.

The setting of clear, firm financial disciplines against which the performance of the industries could be measured would exert a beneficial influence.

The Government was not privatizing wholesale. The characteristic of its approach was of an industry by industry approach, an examination of the position with solutions geared to meet particular circumstances and needs.

The Minister of State for Industry (Mr Kenneth Baker) had announced in the Commons that arrangements were in hand for the offer for the sale by Kleinwort Benson Ltd on behalf of the Secretary of State for Industry (Sir Keith Joseph) of about half of the issued ordinary shares of British Aerospace public limited company.

The Government would retain between 48.37 per cent and 50 per cent of the issued shares, the percentage being dependent on the number of shares taken up under the special arrangements being made for the employees.

He could not give further details about the offer for sale at this stage. The Government's position as promoter of the company placed severe legal restrictions on the comments ministers could make on the offer.

Lord Harris of High Cross (Ind) said the Government spent over half of the national income and employed almost a third of the total labour force.

In raising the revenue it was inevitable that it should throw some burdens on to private industry. Yet much of the hard won tax revenue was spent on shielding the nationalized industries from the very market disciplines to which private industry was fully subjected.

Where nationalized industries were monopolies they could sometimes collude with powerful trade unions to batten on the public both as taxpayers and as consumers.

Lord Glenamara (Lab) said that after 21 months a two-pronged Government strategy had emerged: First, to reduce the welfare state to an irreducible minimum and, secondly, to roll back the public sector also to an irreducible minimum which the private sector would not be interested to acquire.

Every month that passed showed the utter lunacy of the strategy. The policy was to do the public sector in by any means available.

Lord Thorneycroft (C) said too large a public sector struggling to reduce its costs and supported by an over-burdened and over-taxed private sector was a recipe for unemployment.

If the objective of policy was to provide jobs, then a smaller more efficient public sector supported by a richer and expanding private sector must be high on the list of political objectives.

Matched with new investment, minimum Government interference, low taxation and retaining for the sake of employment the massive potential market that lay in Europe, and by financial policies which really pinned inflation down—this was the broadly central ground of politics today.

Lord Kaldor (Lab) said that *The Times* had over the greater part of two centuries been recognized as the authentic voice of Britain.

I regret (he said) that the possibility of nationalizing *The Times*, by which I mean transferring its ownership to a public corporation to be run on the same lines as the BBC, has not even been contemplated, let alone seriously discussed.

Its future, its independence and its ability to serve the national interests would have been far better guaranteed in that way than by its absorption by a multi-national publishing empire of chequered reputation.

I realize that the BBC licence solution may not suit the Conservative Party, since the present arrangements will ensure that *The Times* will continue to be a thinly disguised organ of the Conservative Party and not a national paper of all parties.

I suggest for the future that if national newspapers continue to run into the sort of financial difficulties we have witnessed so frequently in the past 30 years, the Government should be ready to step in and transfer the ownership to a public agency with the independence of the BBC.

Democracy required a press that spoke with many voices. More than any other nation, Britain had a tradition of public services and institutions which were capable of jealously guarding their independence. Britain was exceptionally well placed to use the institutions of the state to preserve an independent press which spoke with many voices.

No fishing debate

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C) made an unsuccessful application for an emergency debate on the critical situation in the fishing ports, particularly in the ports of Fraserburgh and Peterhead.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Debate on the economic situation.

House of Lords
Today at 3: Energy Conservation Bill, report. Deep Sea Mining (Temporary Provisions) Bill, committee. Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill, committee.

Some full-blooded advice for the hostess with the roastest

Shona Crawford Poole

Nowhere in the cookery books on my shelves, a copious and catholic selection of old and new, does any writer recommend roasting as an appropriate method of cooking topside of beef. Yet topside is the most popular joint of beef for roasting according to research published this week by the Meat Promotion Executive of the British Livestock Commission.

It is no news that the British housewife buys smaller joints than she once did, because families are not as large as they were. And her absolute insistence on lean meat is a well known preference much lamented by those who have learned that a light marbling of fat improves both taste and tenderness. Marbled meat is ever harder to come by.

This makes it all the more dismaying that nearly three quarters of the men and women surveyed would choose to eat beef on the well-done side of medium because, as another section of the research demonstrates, well-done topside is likely to be tougher and drier than beef which is still pink in the middle.

Some of the conclusions reached by researchers who roasted beef in scientifically controlled conditions, with none of the normal interruptions of domestic life, make interesting reading.

"For a given type of joint (lean/fat covered/foil wrapped) at a given oven temperature (slow or fast) there was a considerable variation between replicate joints in their cooking rates. Measurement of meat temperature was essential to ensure good results every time."

". . . fat covered joints lost more weight than lean joints" and ". . . in both slow and fast ovens, slightly more weight was lost from the lean portion of fat covered joints, than in lean joints without fat covering."

As a result of all its work on topside the Meat Promotion Executive advises: "Those who prefer rare beef will achieve a tender result, with least weight loss in a slow oven (160°C/320°F). A foil covering will also help to keep the beef rare and prevent weight loss. It should be remembered that a fat covering will increase the weight loss from the lean.

"Those preferring well-done beef would be better advised to choose a joint with a minimum fat covering, or to wrap joints in foil, and to cook at oven temperatures in the region of 200°C/400°F. It would be preferable not to cook the beef longer than necessary at high centre temperatures, since prolonged cooking will increase toughness."

My own conclusion is that popular taste has not got this beef business quite right, unless, of course, people really do prefer a good beefy chew. Personally, I would rather have tender and well flavoured roast beef once in a while than roasted topside (which is not after all a snip at about £2 a pound) more often.

There is no arguing about the flavour of topside though. It is splendidly rich and beefy. Which is why cooks going back to the cauldron days have browned it in dripping and cooked it on a bed of vegetables with just enough liquid to make it succulent when cooked right through.

Eliza Acton's instructions for braising a rump of beef weighing 7 or 8 lb demonstrate the larger size of joints common in mid-nineteenth century recipes. Rump was the name then for topside and is still among Scottish names for the cut. Other current regional names include corner cut, corner-piece and corner case, best end, hinderbone, hind lift and buttock.

How reassuring Eliza Acton's plain speaking recipes must have been when all cooking appliances ran on solid fuel and thermostats were a thing of the future.

"To stew a rump of beef: This joint is more easily carved, and it of better appearance when the bones are removed before it is dressed. Roll and bind it firmly with a fillet of tape, cover it with strong cold beef broth or gravy, and stew it very gently indeed from six hours to between seven and eight; add to it, after the scum has been well cleared off, one large or two moderate-sized onions stuck with thirty cloves, a head of celery, two carrots, two turnips, and a large faggot of savoury herbs. When the beef is perfectly tender quite through, which may be known by probing it with a sharp thin skewer, remove the fillets of tape, dish it neatly, and serve it with a rich Espagnole, and garnish with forced tomatas, or with a highly flavoured brown English gravy, and stewed carrots in the dish . . .

"This is the most simple and economical manner of stewing the beef; but should a richer one be desired, half roast the joint, and stew it afterwards in strong gravy to which a pint of mushrooms, and a pint of sherry or Madeira, should be added an hour before it is ready for table. Keep it hot while a portion of the gravy is thickened with a well-made brown roux, and seasoned with salt, cayenne, and any other spice it may require. Garnish it with large balls of forcemeat highly seasoned with minced eschalots, rolled in egg and bread-crumbs, and fried a fine golden brown.

"Plainly stewed 6 to 7 or 8 hours. Or: half roasted then stewed from 4 to 5 hours."

Hot English mustard or fiery horse-radish go well with the slightly sweet flavour of a traditional pot roast cooked with plenty of root vegetables. Pot roasted topside is particularly good cold. Serve it with hot sauté or baked potatoes.

Pot roast of beef

Serves four to six

- 55g (2oz) butter or dripping
- 1.8kg (4lb) rolled topside of beef in one piece
- 450g (1lb) onions peeled and quartered
- 225g (8oz) carrots, scraped and halved
- 225g (8oz) turnip or parsnip, peeled and cut in chunks
- 1 leek, cut in 2.5cm (1 inch) lengths
- 1 sprig fresh thyme, or ¼ teaspoon dried
- 150ml (¼ pint) drinkable red wine or beef stock
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Melt the butter or dripping in a heavy fireproof casserole large enough to hold the meat and vegetables without too much room to spare. Add the meat and brown it well on all sides. Take out the meat and brown the vegetables lightly. Return the meat to the casserole making sure that there is a good layer of the vegetables underneath it. Add the thyme and red wine or stock and a generous seasoning of salt and freshly ground black pepper. Cover and cook in a preheated cool oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for about three hours, or until the meat is tender.

Transfer the meat to a heated serving dish and surround it with the vegetables. Serve the stock separately, as it is, or thickened to make a conventional gravy.

Social Focus

What is good for Mary's child and bad for Peter and James

Peter and James—the names are fictitious—both have broken backs. Peter was in a road accident. James fell at work. Both are teenagers, and both are ready to leave hospital. But neither can.

Their local authorities say that for this year at least the money has run out that would have provided the adaptations to their homes in the form of ramps, widened doors and the like that would make life in a wheelchair possible for them.

Nellie is in her sixties. Her life is spent in a wheelchair. Her husband suffers from emphysema and some weeks ago had a bad attack. At 3 am in her nightgown she had to wheel herself to a public call box and hold herself upright long enough to ring the doctor. The local authority says neither of these disabled people qualifies for a telephone under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act, because they do not live alone.

Mary has a nine-year-old mentally handicapped child, too heavy now for her to carry. She needs a lift to get her to their upstairs toilet to teach her, literally, to be toilet trained. The local authority said it had not the money to provide one.

These three cases are the more dramatic ones from a clutch that the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (RADAR) are fighting on behalf of 14 charities in the disability field, on the grounds that the local authorities concerned are in fact breaking the law.

Under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act, RADAR says, the authorities have a duty to provide these services. At the moment it is pressing individual authorities to comply. If that fails, the cases will go to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services. If he will not order compliance, RADAR says, it will take a test case to court.

Since the campaign began three months ago, RADAR says 300 letters have arrived citing further instances were, in many cases, RADAR believes the law is also being broken, and the disabled are suffering.

Shaping up for a six: handicapped children at play.

Parents with handicapped children, entitled to brief holidays during which the child goes into care, are not getting them. Local authorities are not making the assessment of the disabled's needs that they should. When a case is accepted, delays of a year or more are found before action is taken. Charges are being made for home helps for the disabled who are on supplementary benefit, and criteria for telephones are being made so strict that RADAR believes they are unreasonable.

Mr Peter Mitchell, head of research at RADAR, says: "We are not being totally unreasonable in what we are asking". In the case of the boys with broken backs, he says, "they are sitting in hospital costing the National Health Service hundreds of pounds a week when they are all revved up and ready to go.

"If someone like that loses his confidence, he may never be able to hold down a job again. The adaptations would cost several hundred pounds, but if ever there was a time when it pays one-hundred fold to spend money to put them back at home and work, it is now."

He says that in a sense, disabled people are being used by local authorities in a battle with the Government over cuts. The same charge, he says, could be levelled at RADAR; "but where the law says disabled people are entitled to something it is our duty to try and see it is enforced".

The campaign, it seems, is having some effect. A hoist, costing several hundred pounds, to enable a disabled woman to use her bath had lain on her bathroom floor for eight months without being fitted. After a letter from RADAR pointing out the law it was installed within days.

The stair lift needed by Mary's child has now been provided, and RADAR is encouraged by statements from Mr Hugh Rossi, the new Minister for the Disabled, that the disabled should not be the victims of spending cuts.

RADAR believes that only by pursuing individual cases can it force local authorities to acknowledge their legal duties. If a test case is needed to prove the point, however, RADAR says it will bring it.

Nicholas Timmins

The wrangle over maternity sick pay

The Government has now decided, after many protests, that it will make no changes in maternity benefits when it introduces a Bill to transfer responsibility for sick pay from the national insurance system to employers.

The Bill will now simply state that employers will not have to pay sick pay during the period women workers can claim maternity allowance.

The present obligation on employers to pay a minimum of six weeks' maternity pay to those women who qualify will continue. So will the state benefits of a £25 maternity grant, to be made payable without contribution conditions next year, and the maternity allowance, paid on national insurance contributions for up to 18 weeks.

But the value of this allowance is being reduced both by the decision to pay 5 per cent less than the amount needed to compensate for inflation, and by the reduction in earnings related supplement this year to be followed by its complete abolition next year.

The Government proposed to change those three different systems of cash help for pregnant women workers in the same way as it has already altered the supplementary benefit scheme. The idea was to redistribute the money spent on maternity benefits in different ways, at no extra cost. Inevitably, that would have meant some mothers gaining and others losing as has already happened with supplementary benefits.

The Commons select committee on social services tartly took issue "on the piecemeal way in which the Government is presenting its reforms of the social security system" which prevented a full consideration of individual needs and how they could best be met.

Nevertheless, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Security, has indicated her gratitude to the committee, particularly for its recommendation that maternity pay and maternity allowance should be merged into a single payment from employers. That could have led to a better maternity grant for all mothers, with the highest grant for the first child.

The committee's recommendations, made reluctantly on the assumption that legislation was imminent, corresponded closely with the views of most of the 200 individuals and organizations who commented on the Government's proposals. Mrs Chalker revealed in the Commons last week, however, that the overwhelming response was against any change.

She said: "It is clear that the consensus of opinion at present is that it would be wrong simply to redistribute existing resources to the disadvantage of working women".

The question is not, however, closed. There is widespread support for a substantial increase in the maternity grant, which has remained unchanged since 1969 and now meets only a fraction of the costs new mothers face. There is also some support for merging employers' maternity pay with the state maternity allowance.

But Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, called the committee's comoments on sick pay "off the cuff opinion, not founded on any evidence heard", and questioned whether that was the best way for a select committee to proceed. Both reports from the select committee were compiled in exactly the same way, and both had to be completed speedily because of the legislative time table.

Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

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New Books

One man's will

Peter the Great
His Life and World
By Robert K. Massie
(Gollancz £9.95)

Robert (*Nicholas and Alexandra*) Massie writes very long books indeed, a fact more likely to irritate book reviewers than the general reading public which buys them and—there is little evidence to the contrary—is always eager to enjoy another damned, thick, square book. I have not seen Alex de Jonge's *Fire and Water* (1979) with which it has been, by one distinguished Russian hand, unfavourably compared, but I cannot believe that anyone putting down nearly ten pounds for the nine hundred pages of *Peter the Great* will be disappointed. No new or original view of Russian history is offered, but Mr Massie tells a moving and frequently quite horrible story in exhaustive detail, controlled excitement and cool style.

To be sure, he is no synthesist: inability, or unwillingness, to reduce the sheer bulk of his sources by prudent digestion is a chief fault. He finds it hard to leave anything out: lists abound, letters and diaries are quoted at excessive length. Yet the material itself is nearly always interesting, and Massie is a talented narrative historian blest with a diligent energy and enthusiasm, and a desire to share his discoveries with the reader. The structure is sound, but not dull.

He is a fair trader. "His Life and World" says the label on the packet, and if Peter's world is held to embrace informative digressions on the building of Versailles, the career of William III, the giants of Frederick William I, the widespread practice of torture and the viler forms of capital punishment; and life in the cities of Moscow, London, Paris, Constantinople and Amsterdam at the end of the seventeenth century, not to mention the bizarre genius of Peter's supreme antagonist, Charles XII of Sweden, and a hundred other matters, well, so it did and does. It is of the greatest relevance to be reminded what exactly that world was towards which, after his Great Embassy to the West in 1697, the Tsar wrenched Russia's gaze.

It is a measure of Massie's skill and of Peter's diversity that, shirking no horror, the portrait remains sympathetic. Massie loves Russia, and writes with extreme circumspection—that is to say, hardly at all—about Russian history since 1917. Not every reader will agree with his distinction between cruelty and sadism in the Tsar's character, nor with his view of Soviet foreign policy in 1940, but the urge to show Peter in the best light must spring partly from the relief of writing about a monarch who could, and did, do everything for himself, after devoting so many years to Peter's descendants who, between them, barely seemed able to tie up a ribbon or fasten a stud.

Peter knew terror in childhood and adolescence, and did not scruple to use terror to fight off real or imagined threats to his anointed, autocratic power. He literally frightened and tortured his son and heir to death, and the full horror of that death, as of the political murders in England in 1649 and 1660, is that it was believed to be done according to abstract principles of justice and law, from which not even the Tsarevich was immune. It is not clear from *Peter the Great* whether the pious and drunken Alexis was involved in a genuine conspiracy against his father or whether, as seems more likely, he merely wished to marry his Finnish whore, be relieved of the succession, and retire out of reach; he would have made a very bad Tsar.

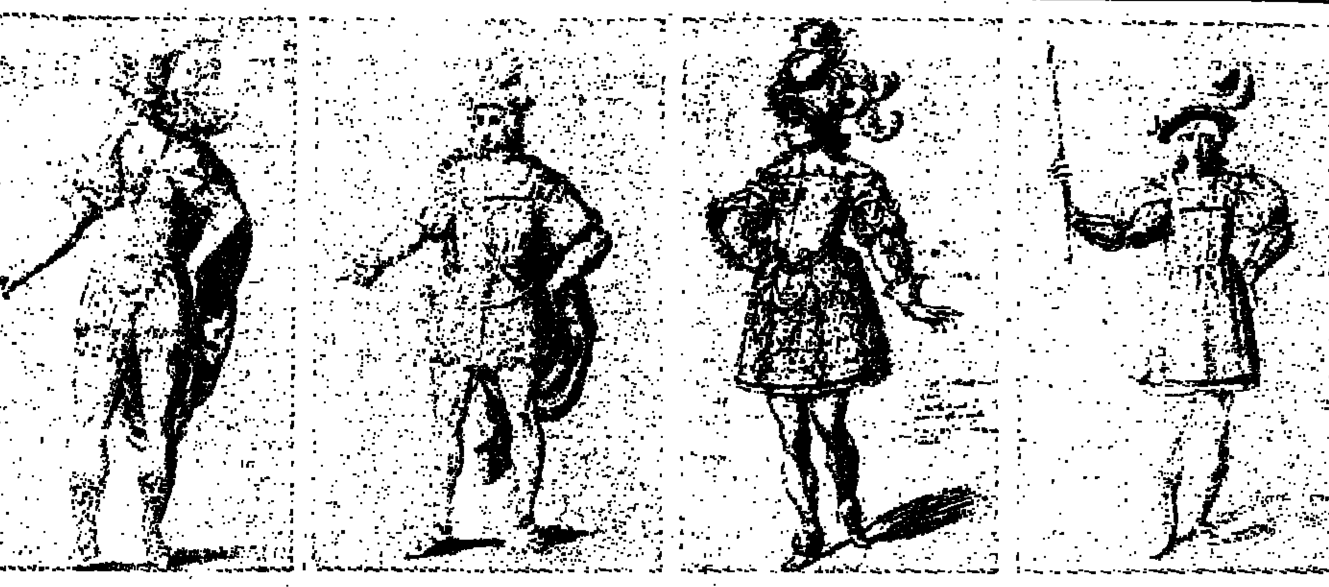
Bare backs were shredded and men torn on the wheel in the most modern and miraculous European city since the foundation of Venice itself. St Petersburg was literally forced into existence, like everything in Peter's unprecedented reign, by the labour of thousands, and the will of one man. Peter gave Russia shipbuilding, commerce, an iron industry and the sea; tobacco, *assemblées*, a place in the reckoning of the West, and the German royal marriages without which no eighteenth century government could hope to home in on the airwaves of diplomacy and international power. He brought the state to solvency and taxed some of the people to starvation. But above all—and it must seem his most positive achievement to us now—he gave it a city.

"Russians", writes Massie, in his opening chapter, "are a communal people. They do not live alone deep in the forest, contesting the primeval weald with wolf and bear". What a splendidly nineteenth century, or at least Edwardian, ring, there is to that sentence ("weald" is an Edwardian revival): it is the sort of remark made by those travelling Russophils who wrote the accompanying text to a volume of water-colour sketches—like F. de Haenens's *Russia* of 1913—and indeed *Peter the Great* is old-fashioned in a number of ways. It is well printed and generously illustrated; it is comparatively inexpensive, or at least excellent value, and it proclaims an unfashionable faith in the individual's contribution to history. When describing the age of Louis XIV, John Churchill, William III, Charles XII and Peter I, all of whom either exemplified the time or went significantly against it, this seems not merely defensible, but positively right.

It is perfectly complemented by the choice of colour illustrations, which include three of the dramatic nineteenth century history-paintings which surprise and delight travellers to the Soviet Union today: "Peter interrogating his son Alexis at Peterhof", by Nicolas Ge (1871): "The Regent Sophia confined in Novodevichy Convent" by Ilya Repin (1879) and "Peter and the building of St Petersburg" by Valentin Serov (1907).

Here are the stars of traditional history fixed: the bitterly smiling father, in the Dutch pavilion at Peterhof, waits for the pale boy to reply; Peter's formidable half-sister, the only creature in the world, apart from cockroaches at dinner of whom he was afraid, her eyes wild with anger and disbelief that she is trapped at last, as one of her supporters swings slowly in the breeze outside; and the great giant himself, Baas-Peter, striding from site to site on Vasilievsky Island with the needle spire of Peter and Paul Cathedral across the water and servants, planners and technicians alike striving to keep up, their bodies bent and their heads down, as always, against the wind off the sea.

Michael Ratcliffe



Masquers designed by Inigo Jones from Britannia Triumphans, Roy Strong's re-examination of the iconography of the Rubens ceiling of Whitehall Palace, first given as the Walter Neurath Memorial Lecture (Thames & Hudson, £3.50). From left to right the first two come from "Oberon, the Fairy Prince", the second pair from "Coelum Britannicum".

His master's voice

Downing Street Diary
The Macmillan Years, 1957-1963
By Harold Evans
(Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95)

"Diary" turns out to be not the precise word. Sir Harold Evans, adviser on public relations to Mr Harold Macmillan as Prime Minister, kept only desultory notes in the early years, and the diary proper began in 1960. He offers the book, with a characteristic question mark, as colourful foot notes to a colourful premiership. He could not have claimed more, and he would have been unfair to himself to have claimed less. He entertains his reader without surprising him with significant knowledge or insights not already available elsewhere, above all in Mr Macmillan's memoirs.

It is essentially a book for insiders; for Whitehall, the Westminster Lobby, and Fleet Street. During his seven years' service in a senior post at 10 Downing Street, Harold Evans became for most political journalists and London-based foreign correspondents the model of an official spokesman, the smoothest and most helpful guide, philosopher and friend at No 10 that the Press had known in the post-war years.

He makes an exception of me: "at times he seemed highly prickly and we walked around each other warily". It is a fair verdict, and I hope he is not the only public relations man who would pronounce it. He was right to detect scepticism in me, and I was right to detect that his prime interests were not mine, or those of readers' of *The Times*. He was his master's voice; I was not.

The diary raises questions about the responsibilities of Whitehall public relations officers, and the view they take of their answerability as civil servants to the public. Sir Harold, for example, argues that it is important to separate Government interests from party interests, and to ensure that the demarcation line is always clearly drawn. Yet no such division of interests exists in the thinking of a Prime Minister or any other Minister, and the book seems to me to illustrate several instances when he was able to do more for the party than party officials. If he is an adviser on public relations and close day and night to the Prime Minister, how could he not?

And where does objective truth come in? My first meeting with the author was at the Colonial Office in the early 1950s, when I had in hand a series of leader page articles on Caribbean immigration. He denied that the Colonial Office had immigration figures or estimates. Perhaps he did not know. But his colleagues were reporting the figures monthly in Whitehall.

Later I heard from a good source that Archbishop Makarios would be released from quarantine in the Seychelles and flown back to Cyprus to become the first President on independence. Sir Harold was strong with denials. Of course, he may not have known. But he went beyond the strict line of duty before Makarios duly arrived in Nicosia.

Nor does his account in this book of my 1959 article on Selwyn Lloyd square with what happened at the time. Lord Hill, then the Minister co-ordinating Government information, knew all the facts within 24 hours, and asked me to his room at the House to receive the friendly confidence that (I quote from memory) "for political reasons we have got to do to you what you do to us". Sir Harold, the principal hatchet man, may not have known, but it would be surprising if he had been given no hint.

My point is that Whitehall public relations men need watching, and, until they find (as some of them have), a firmer basis for confidence in dealing with journalists, newspapers are right to trust their own judgment and chance their arm.

David Wood

Fiction

Burnt Water
By Carlos Fuentes
Translated by Margaret Sayers Peden
(Secker & Warburg, £6.50)
Elizabeth Alone
By William Trevor
(The Bodley Head, £6.95)
We Always Treat Women Too Well
By Raymond Queneau
(John Calder, £8.95)

Rising out of the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan, itself founded on the burnt water of a volcanic lagoon, the city of Mexico has grown from its viceregal Spanish beginnings into what Carlos Fuentes himself describes as "this great cancerous stain of a smog-ridden, traffic-snarled metropolis of 17 million people". Never a writer to resist a technical or thematic challenge, Sr Fuentes has sought to capture in 11 brilliant stories the fear, squalor, passing splendour, cruelty, violence and pavement tragedy of the place he predicts will become "the capital of underdevelopment".

Through the ostentatious elegance of Pedregal and the Zona Rosa, the decaying palaces turned tenements, the misery of the makeshift slums, these characters move steadily, resignedly, angrily, desperately, savagely to their own individual and entirely convincing destinies, reflecting as they do centuries of religious and *political conflict, oppression* and revenge, and the ethnic and superstitious folklore in a society where they suffer, prey, profit or merely exist.

The variety and versatility of the collection is impressive and the quality of the writing (and translation) consistently excellent. Perhaps the best story is "The Son of Andres Aparicio"—a tale of a boy's progress from a shanty town towards affluence and security of bitter provenance; but there is also the frightening violence of "The Mandarin" and "The Cost of Living", the macabre chill of "Chac-Mool" and "The Doll Queen", the ghostly pathos of "In a Flemish Garden", the grim moral satire of "Mother's Day", and the sardonic comedy of "The Old Morality".

Each of the stories has something particular to commend it: and if they often throb with an irony that is sometimes cruel, there is, too, an insistent pulse of compassion for the sufferings of the weak in an unequal, unjust urban jungle polluted by smog and *macho*.

William Trevor, too, deals with the weak and those who exploit them: but his is a very different, by now familiar and easily recognizable world, in which distressed though not indigent gentlefolk struggle on the one hand with their own failures and frustrations, and on the other with meaner characters always ready to take advantage of their credulity, innocence, or insecurity. In this world the incomplete and disappointed are observed, their activities patiently catalogued, with a ruthless pity never made explicit and all but the vilest characters are given some touch of humanity.

In *Elizabeth Alone*, first published in 1973 and now reissued, four women meet in a small ward in a female hospital where three of them, including Elizabeth herself, are to have hysterectomies and the fourth is trying to have a baby after several miscarriages. Gradually, they become aware of the preoccupations, hopes, worries and fleeting pleasures in each other's lives. Elizabeth is beset by a sense of guilt which is no less pernicious for being vague after an unhappy childhood relationship with her father, a failed marriage, and a love affair that was maladroit. She worries about her mother (the voluntary inmate of an old people's home), her adolescent drop-out daughter, her two younger children, and her old, hopeless childhood friend, Henry, whose own marriage has fallen apart and who now wants to marry her.

Sylvie, after a rough upbringing, has taken up with a charming, feckless, completely amoral Irishman, Declan, himself in the clutches of a money-lending vampire called Maloney. Lily, depressed and fretting about her expected child, broods about the inroads her monstrous mother-in-law will inevitably try to make into her happy mariage while she is away from home. And when her ineffectual husband strikes back at his mother, she has to face new troubles. Miss Samson, disfigured from birth, has the satisfaction of the house she runs for "church people" like herself, left to her by Mr Ibbs, a saintly and religious man whom she adored. Yet a line she has read in one of his diaries nags away at her peace of mind.

His ironies are perhaps not as savage as those of Carlos Fuentes. They are, nevertheless, remorseless in their own way. At the end of the novel, things seem to have turned out quite well for two of the women. But there are question marks . . . Most pertinently over the way in which Elizabeth will face her future life, eventually, alone.

The Irishmen in *We Always Treat Women Too Well* are very different from William Trevor's Declan and Maloney. Larger than life in the marvellously comic tradition of so many joyous Irish authors, it is astonishing that they should be the creations of Raymond Queneau—though this probably does less than justice to a polymathic writer of great and varied talent.

During the Easter Rising of 1916 in Dublin, one band of insurrectionists occupies a minor Post Office on Eden Quay. Led by one John Macormack, they all have names out of Joyce's *Ulysses*, though they seem to have opted for different professions. Their password is "Finnegans wake". The assault if brief and very violent. Those who are not summarily shot are evicted; whereupon with a "requisitioned" supply of Guinness and whiskey, the men set about defending the building. What they do not know is that a female postal clerk, Gertie Girdle (who turns out to be an eponymously fortuitous pioneer of such garments), is locked in the lavatory she was using when the attack met with such rapid success. Her subsequent discovery, the consequences for Gertie, fiancée of a British naval officer, and the dire predicaments of the insurgents after her arousal; as a British warship prepares to bombard the objective, determine the conflict of the rest of the novel.

Queneau originally published the book, alleging it to be a translation, under the pseudonym Sally Mara. The publishers say this was partly as a joke and partly because (in 1947) the obscenity would have been objectionable to Queneau's usual readers. Judged by contemporary standards, the obscene content is pretty mild and the novel is remarkable rather for its hilarity, its gusto, and its sometimes surreal grasp of human absurdity. The over-formal locution and orotundity of a certain class of Anglo-Irish prose is captured delightfully, interspersed with quick funny dialogue and effective description. It is hard to imagine how the novel reads in French: what is evident is that the translation by Barbara Wright is itself an achievement of the highest quality.

Stuart Evans

Bourbon on the rocks

Louis XVIII
By Philip Mansel
(Blond & Briggs, £18.95)

Who became King after the execution of a near relation; spent the first decade of his reign in exile; returned to his realm by invitation rather than by conquest; was resolved never to go on his travels again; and was succeeded by a brother who was chased from his throne within a few years? The similarities between the careers of Charles II and Louis XVIII are so marked that the contrast in characters becomes still more striking. Whatever one's assessment of Charles II, no one questioned his intelligence, his charm, his wit, his mental agility. Louis XVIII, on the other hand, has come down in the popular mind as a nonentity whose weaknesses were flagrant and whose virtues unspectacular—prudence, imperturbability, moderation. Mr Mansel, in this impressive debut as a biographer, sets out to prove that Louis XVIII deserves somewhat better of posterity. He makes his case with a moderation of which his subject would have approved and, on the whole, convinces the reader that he is right.

He has an uphill task. Louis XVIII was admirably qualified as a butt for the satirist. He was slow, insensitive, sometimes stupid; lazy, apathetic, signing what was put in front of him without even an inquiry about its contents. Marshal Macdonald praised his *regard pénetrant de lynx*, but the lynx is rarely concerned by matters more taxing than the whereabouts of its next meal and Louis's preoccupations often rose no higher. He was extravagantly gluttonous and his greed was demonstrated in his bulk. He moved with the Bourbon waddle—"like the heavings of a ship", Greville described it—and once when a courtier knelt to kiss his hand, his over-hanging belly was butted smartly by an unwary head. Even his death was obscene.

And yet at the end of the day Louis XVIII retained his throne, while Louis XVI, Charles X, for that matter Napoleon, lost theirs. He gave France what it wanted: peace, stability, a measure of prosperity. It is curious that his stock does not stand higher in Britain for he was the most anglophile of Frenchmen and would have loved to see politics in France develop as they were doing across the Channel. "*O torys! O whigs! où êtes vous?*" he once demanded wistfully as he surveyed the rancorous and fanatic factions that surrounded him. He was a reasonable man who believed that, provided everyone else would be reasonable too, then things would go along very well. As a prescription for good government it could not count on invariable success, but it was what was needed in post-Napoleonic France.

This is a long book, swollen beyond its proper length by an irritating habit of appending a translation to every French phrase. Is it really necessary to tell us that "*à cause des affaires du Parlement*" means "on account of the affairs of the Parlement"; and if we are to have this gawky rendition, do we need the original too? The index too is inadequate for so substantial a work. These are, however, minor blemishes on a book which is sound, well-written, and admirably researched. Mr Mansel has style, wit, and a sense of proportion, and there seems every reason to expect great things from him in future.

Philip Ziegler

Empire makers

The Cohesion of Saudi Arabia
By Christine Moss Helms
(Croom Helm, £14.95)

It is not exactly unknown for authors to begin by declaring that all previous works on their subject are irretrievably distorted, but in the case of Saudi Arabia, Christine Helms has a point. Dr Helms takes the view that Western attitudes to Saudi history have been largely formed—directly or indirectly—by a single commercial enterprise: the Arabian-American Oil Company, or ARAMCO. This over-states the case; but because of its powerful economic and political role in Saudi Arabia, ARAMCO has certainly been able to impose a view of the country which reinforces the authority of the ruling royal family. All too many historians write, Dr Helms complains, as if one man had "created an empire out of the desert sand": King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud.

For example, according to *Arabia Unified*, a recent biography by Mohammed Almana, the late king was a paragon—courageous, merciful, all-seeing, etc, etc—send by God to unify the Arabian peninsula. Mr Almana is not only a former member of the royal court, but also (surprise, surprise) a "contractor for ARAMCO in Dhahran".

Dr Helms's thesis is that although the Saudi royal family are indeed central to the story of the formation of the state they rule. they are far from being the only element in that story, and must be seen in the context of the social and cultural forces from which they emerge, which underpin Arabian history. Unlike the Levant, for example, Central Arabia had always favoured what the author christens a "flexible continuum" between two ways of life, the nomadic and the settled, and the Al Saud made use of this to establish their authority throughout the 1920s, leading to the proclamation of the kingdom in 1932. The Bedouin and "settled" elements were not separate but linked, and Ibn Saud cut across tribal barriers, first by playing on the Saudi claim to the central region of Najd, secondly by making use of the Saudi connexion with the Al Wahhab religious movement, a "pure" Islamic sect which remains the backbone of Saudi ideology to this day. He also used the militant brotherhood, or Ikhwan as a combined army and police force to cement Saudi control over the new territory.

In stressing these and other factors—including the importation into the Middle East of the concept of the nation state—Dr Helms is in some danger of underestimating King Abdul Aziz's achievement altogether. To make an artificial entity such as Saudi Arabia stick together at all is no mean feat. By 1929, indeed, Abdul Aziz was even strong enough to defeat a rebellion by the Ikhwan, an event of which Dr Helms herself gives a useful account. All the same, it is good to have a book on Saudi Arabia's origins whose pages smell of scholarship rather than oil, especially at a time when the "cohesion" imposed by the royal family is coming under increasing stress and strain.

Richard Owen

What might have been

Pompey: the Republican Prince
By Peter Greenhalgh
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.50)

The great dynasts of the last age of the Roman Republic were, indeed, princely alike in their style of life and in their pretensions. Peter Greenhalgh's subtitle might, I suppose, transform into Latin as *princeps civitatis*. If so, it would represent an ambition for which Pompey continually strove but which he *never, or only fleetingly*, attained: to receive the reward due to his immense achievements and prestige, and to be accepted and recognized by the senatorial nobility as the leading man among all the leading men of the Republic. Their rejection drove him, unwillingly, to defend the bases of his position and power, into the fatal conjunction with Julius Caesar, which, in the end, undid both him and his opponents.

The second volume of Peter Greenhalgh's biography (the first was published under the title *Pompey: The Roman Alexander*) extends from the beginning of 58 BC when the consequences of his compact with Caesar were already becoming apparent to Pompey, to his death 10 years later, cut down by one of his own ex-officers, on the Egyptian shore. It is a decade full of incident and portent for the future, and one in which, although the best documented period in European history before the Renaissance, problems abound for the historian. That many of these problems are, in the present state of knowledge, insoluble has not precluded vehement scholarly debate, creating a minefield through which the author treads a sure-footed path. Notes to the various chapters at the end of the book give full references to the ancient sources and modern discussions (the author's reading is impressively up-to-date).

There are six pages of serviceable maps, two appendices (on the provincial law of Pompey and Crassus of 55 BC and its relevance for the vexed question of the terminal date of Caesar's Gallic command—a model discussion, this—and on military statistics in the civil war) bibliography, list of references to all the quotations in the text (a valuable feature) and, not to be taken for granted in these straitened times, a full index. Yet the scholarship, meticulously accurate though it is, is kept firmly in its place to serve a narrative which is as lucid and attractive in the second volume as it was in the first and which gives a vivid picture not merely of the individual characters but of the wheeling and dealing, the excitement, the sheer vulgarity, at times, of Roman public life at the end of a great tradition.

The author perhaps tends rather to underplay the deviousness and unreliability which contemporaries marked in Pompey's personality, but his overall assessment is firm and just: if a guardian were needed for the very imperfect Republic, Pompey's ambitions were more compatible with its preservation than Caesar's. Unlike many moderns, the author has the relationship between Pompey and Caesar in the correct perspective. We today see Pompey through Caesar's shadow; but to contemporaries it was the older man, not the younger patrician adventurer, who bestrode the petty world like a colossus. Hence the oligarchy's fear and opposition. "What might have been" is an improper speculation for an historian. But what if Marcus Cato had in 62 BC brought himself to accede to Pompey's request that he and his eldest son should marry Cato's nieces? In the event *Catoni aliter visum*, but the whole subsequent history of Europe might well have been different.

Donald Earl

Quick guide

The Beaker Folk, by Richard J. Harrison (Thames & Hudson, £12). Nineteenth-century archaeologists gave the unlovely name Bell Beaker to some of the loveliest pottery from prehistoric Western Europe, because it looked like inverted bells. Quite a few of them thought that these beakers were early beer-mugs on account of their generous capacity. Traces of the prehistoric beer, such as malted barley grains, proved elusive. Research over the past 15 years, particularly radiocarbon dating, has shown that the Beaker Folk were not a separate, well-defined, beer-drinking community, more a movement spread widely and sporadically by different groups around 2000 BC. They introduced metal technology all over Western and Central Europe. And their arrival coincided with major structural changes in primitive society: hierarchical communities, chiefs, keeping up with the pre-Joneses, and the acquisition and display of coveted possessions to assert one's status. Dr Harrisons' is the first general book about Bell Beakers for 50 years. It summarizes the recent transformations of knowledge about our energetic Copper Age ancestors, to whom we owe Stonehenge and evidently now the modern rat-race as well as the beakers.

Inner city dilemma

I'll Fight you for it
Behind the Struggle for Covent Garden
By Brian Anson
(Cape £8.95)
Smithfield Past and Present
By Alec Forshaw
(Heinemann £7.50)

Planning disputes, with their protests and petitions, their interminable meetings and public inquiries, are things in which most of us are reluctant to become involved. How fortunate, therefore, that there are those in our society who are prepared to oppose such monstrous schemes as that which the Greater London Council proposed for Covent Garden in 1968. Do we not owe a debt of gratitude to people like Lady Dartmouth and the Reverend Austen Williams, Vicar of St Martin-in-the-fields, who successfully fought to prevent the territory of Inigo Jones and Eliza Doolittle from being swamped by motorways and speculative office blocks?

But it is not quite as simple as that. While some of us naively take delight in the spectacle of the old streets coming to life again, there are those like Mr Anson who see the last 12 years as a tragedy. For him the enemy comprises not just the planners but the middle class trendies who have moved in with their restaurants and wine bars, antique shops and boutiques. He bewails the failure of the established working class community to organize a resistance, and to see through the blandishments of those who purported to be its supporters.

Mr Anson himself emerges as a curious character, a Liverpool Irishman who began his association with Covent Garden as an architect-planner with the team that produced the first dreadful scheme. His conscience compelled him to quarrel with his masters and subsequently to resign. He later quarrelled with almost everyone else, including his colleagues in the Covent Garden Community Association and even his beloved, exploited "Cockneys".

Like many Irishmen, he is emotional and combative, driven by his own admission to intemperate speeches and denunciations which he afterwards regretted and which evidently alienated his friends. A peculiar Irishness pervades the whole story; in the names—Driscoll, Toomey, Monaghan — which stalk the pages; in the comparison which he draws with "free Derry"; in the personal vendettas and the confusion of ideals and actions.

Mr Anson sees the whole story in terms of a class struggle; if the word "class" were indexed, it would probably fill several columns.

But if, for some people, Covent Garden represents a failure of vision, what then of Smithfield, with its far longer history and profusion of historical associations? Through the narrow lanes and once festering alleys of this ancient "suburb" of the City roam the ghosts of Thomas a Becket and Thomas More, Chaucer and Bunyan, Swift and Defoe, Garrick and Handel, Hogarth and Charles Lamb, Johnson and Boswell, Dickens and Thackeray, Marx and Engels, the scholars of Charterhouse and the Knights of St John.

Mr Forshaw begins in dry guidebook style, but warms to his task. Like Mr Anson, he is a professional planner, and his book is not entirely free of jargon, but he can be entertaining on the subject of pubs and scathing about his fellow-planners' brutalities.

The rise of Smithfield and its surrounds from squalor and anarchy to a centre of metropolitan life, and its subsequent blight and decline, encapsulate what has become known as the inner city dilemma. Mr Forshaw does not think that the Greater London Council will attempt another Covent Garden, even if the market authority decided to move which, he says, would be a local tragedy.

But restoring life to the surrounding streets, with their derelict sites and empty buildings, presents a formidable task. The apparent determination of the City Corporation to bulldoze the area known as Little Britain to accommodate a new road scheme is not a happy omen.

Mr Bergstrom's mostly sombre photographs, interspersed with archive material, sometimes suffer from indifferent reproduction. But there are some nice shots, particularly one of an untouched corner of Cloth Fair in a shower of autumn leaves.

John Young

Science fiction

Dark is the Sun
By Philip Jose Farmer
(Granada, £6.95)

As they become older certain science fiction writers turn to the epic as to a health farm, as though length alone were a reviver to help prolong creative life. Few are as skilful as Mr Farmer who, having flexed his paragraphs with the Riverworld Series, now takes on the bulky one-volume quest of Dayv for his stolen soul-egg—a kind of bio-feedback stone without which he is incomplete.

Mr Farmer's fascination has always been with the fleshiness of living things, the actual biological substance of the way creatures are assembled. So that, in a world that has sunk back into savagery the weird life—constructs met by Dayv—a vast flying beast made up of viruses is the least of them—have an imagined reality that is almost palpable.

The story has its episodic digressions, and Dayv himself is never as adequately characterized as the beings encountered, but the momentum is well maintained and, throughout, there is the sweep of a kind of grandeur which is of an epic quality in which Mr Farmer seems perfectly at home. He isn't just visiting.

The Visitors, by Clifford D. Simak (Sidgwick & Jackson, £7.95). Another veteran of science fiction, this time with a story of more approachable length. Black boxes, containing aliens, land on earth and the effect of their presence topsy-turvies concepts of behaviour. The robust writing weights all the fancy to a solid circumstance.

Apostle, by Roger Lovin (Hale, £5.75). The Lorsii, planet-erasing nasties from outer space, "like bony trees flapping in an October night", are fought off in a battle with echoes of religious conflict. Stimulatingly well done.

A World Of Difference, by Edmund Cooper (Hale, £5.75). A clutch of short stories, by a renowned practitioner, more poetically defined than his longer pieces — and extraordinarily readable.

Not To Mention Camels, by R. A. Lafferty (Dobson, £5.25). SF's surreal prankster at it again with the adventures of his one-in-three hero. An infectious mood, but, maybe, an acquired taste.

The Alien Way, by Gordon R. Dickson (Hale, £5.95). Another threat to earth, but hope for us in a man who has studied the aliens' code of conduct and honour. It drifts a bit, but the story does have a climactic grip.

The Altoran Creed, by Terrence Cockburn (Dobson, £5.25). A woman-dominated society, but a balance has to be found between the sexes otherwise decay will set in. Provocative and perceptive by a writer new to the genre.

Tom Hutchinson

Law Report February 4 1981 — Court of Appeal

Council's homeless resolution invalid

Tilley v Wandsworth London Borough Council

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Brandon and Lord Justice Templeman

A resolution of a local authority that in cases of intentional homelessness in respect of a family with young children assistance with alternative accommodation would not be provided under the Children and Young Persons Act, 1963, although consideration would be given to the reception of the children into care was ultra vires because it unlawfully fettered the council's exercise of its discretion under the Act.

The Court of Appeal affirmed the decision of Judge Mervyn Davies, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division on March 17, 1980.

Section 1 of the Children Act, 1948, provides: "(1) Where it appears to a local authority with respect to a *child in their area* ... (b) that his parents or guardian are, for the time being or permanently, prevented by reason of mental or bodily disease or infirmity or other incapacity or any other circumstances from providing for his proper accommodation, maintenance and upbringing; and (c) ... that the intervention of the local authority under this section is necessary in the interests of the welfare of the child, it shall be the duty of the local authority to receive the child into their care under this section ...".

Section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1963, provides: "(1) It shall be the duty of every local authority to make available such advice, *guidance* and assistance as may promote the welfare of children by diminishing the need to receive children into or keep them in care under the Children Act, 1948, ...; and any provisions made by a local authority under this subsection may, if the local authority *think* fit, include provision for giving assistance in kind or, in exceptional circumstances, in cash ...".

The resolution, passed by the council's social services sub-committee on July 4, 1979, and confirmed by the full council on July 24, read: "That in those cases where intentional homelessness had been determined by the council in respect of a family with young children and, subsequently, an approach is made to the social services department, it be decided that assistance with alternative *housing be not provided under* the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1963, although consideration be given to the reception into care of the children should their circumstances so warrant it and that the whole matter be reviewed by committee in three months' time."

Mr Michael Beloff for the council; Mr John Macdonald, QC, and Mr Andrew Bano for the respondent, the Attorney-General at the relation of Mrs Tracey Sandra Helen Tilley.

LORD JUSTICE TEMPLEMAN said that, putting it briefly, what the deputy judge had decided was that it was not open to the council to lay it down that certain discretions and duties laid on it by the 1963 Act should not be carried out.

The Housing (Homeless Persons) Act, 1977, had introduced the notion of intentional homelessness. The duties of a local authority to provide accommodation varied according to whether there were children in the family and whether the homelessness was intentional or unintentional. If it was unintentional, it was, broadly, under a duty to provide permanent accommodation. If it was intentional—where, for example, the *family had rashly* given up property owned or leased by it or had behaved so badly that they had been evicted, for example, for being in breach of covenant—its duty was much more limited. It did not have to provide permanent accommodation; its duty was limited to giving the family advice and assistance in finding accommodation for itself and temporary accommodation while it looked *round for it*.

The 1963 Act was dealing with individual children. Taking into care under the 1948 Act could happen where it appeared to the local authority, inter alia, that the parents were unable or unwilling or incapacitated or in any other circumstances prevented from providing the child with proper accommodation, maintenance and upbringing. The child could then be put with foster-parents or in a home.

What section 1 of the 1963 Act was dealing with was to impose on the authority a duty diminishing its need to put children into care; that was, to see whether the child could stay with its parents or elsewhere, by providing the parents with such guidance or assistance as it thought appropriate.

Mr Beloff sought to uphold the council's resolution in two ways, one oblique, the other direct.

The oblique way was to say that as a matter of construction, it was not open to a local authority under the 1963 Act to provide assistance by way of housing, because in the express powers that it conferred on the local authority it referred to the giving of assistance in kind or, in exceptional circumstances, in cash. Mr Beloff said that assistance in kind did not mean accommodation, and, therefore, cash could not be provided for accommodation.

That was a misconstruction. The 1963 Act was dealing with children taken into care under the 1948 Act. That could happen if the parents were unable to provide accommodation. What the 1963 Act sought to do was to say that, *if one had that situation—lack of* accommodation—the local authority should try to deal with it otherwise than by taking the child into care.

"Assistance" clearly included the provision of accommodation, and, in giving powers to the local authority, section 1 (1) merely said that the general power should include a specific one. It did not cut down the powers of the *authority as Mr Beloff argued*, which would prevent it from diminishing the need to receive children into care by providing them with accommodation or by paying for accommodation owned by someone else.

The court had next to consider whether the authority could say, by way of an order to its committee, that it would not provide accommodation under the 1963 Act to the children of parents who were intentionally homeless. There were well known principles in law saying that a public authority was not entitled to fetter the exercise of a discretion or to fetter the manner in which it was empowered to discharge the duties thrust upon it. It must consider at all times, in every particular case, how to exercise the discretion or perform its duties.

Mr Beloff said that, although the council's resolution appeared to be mandatory, there was evidence that in practice exceptions were made to the rule.

On the issue of ultra vires, the question of the validity of the exceptions did not come into it, but, even if the council had provided for exceptions and that was a general policy and not a mandatory order, that would not get rid of the vice that a local authority *in dealing with individual children should* not make an order that pointed the way to fettering its discretion, particularly if the discretion was fettered in such a way that the facilities offered to the child did not follow the particular circumstances of the child and the family but principles applicable in general cases.

Intentional homelessness could *take a lot of forms* and arise in a variety of cases. Taking a child into care depended on a variety of factors. His Lordship quite understood that, in considering the 1963 Act, including the history of the family, the local authority must not take that into account for the purpose of punishing the parents of the child, or the child but consider what was the best way of *exercising the powers given to it* in the interests of the child. If there was a history of parents who continuously left houses, the council might say that in those circumstances it was better that it should take the child into care. On the other hand, if the family were intentionally homeless, the 1963 Act would still enable the family to be brought up under one roof.

In his lucid judgment, the deputy judge had dismissed the construction of the Act for which Mr Beloff contended. He had correctly applied the principle that a local authority was not entitled to fetter its discretion. His Lordship could not fault his judgment, except to say that he himself was not persuaded that, even if that had been a policy resolution hedged about with exceptions, it would be entirely free from attack. It must depend on the circumstances of each child who came up for consideration.

Lord Justice Brandon and Lord Justice Lawton agreed, Lord Justice Lawton agreeing with a reservation made by Lord Justice Brandon that, while he was satisfied that the resolution in question laid down a policy without any exceptions at all and was invalid, whether a resolution that laid down a general policy with a number of specified exceptions *would also be invalid did not call* for decision by the court in the present case and he would prefer not to express a concluded view on it.

Solicitors: Mrs S. G. Smith; Wilford McBain.

Betting shop window sign an illegal advertisement

Windsors (Sporting Investments) Ltd v Oldfield

Boulton v Coral Racing Ltd

Before Lord Justice Donaldson and Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered January 30]

Where advertisements are placed in the clear glass window of a licensed betting office facing outwards so that they are not legible from inside the premises but only from the street outside, they are "published" outside the premises for the purpose of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act, 1963.

The Divisional Court dismissed an appeal by Windsors (Sporting Investments) Ltd, bookmakers with a licensed betting office at Idle, Bradford, against their conviction by Bradford justices, on a prosecution by Mr Derek Oldfield, of an offence of publishing an advertisement, outside that office, which drew attention to the facilities afforded to persons resorting to the office, contrary to section 10(5) of the Act. Their Lordships allowed an appeal by the prosecutor, Mr Sidney Boulton, against the acquittal by Bridgend justices on a similar charge of Coral Racing Ltd, owners of a licensed betting office in Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.

Section 10(5) of the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries Act provides: "If, save in a licensed betting office or in such manner as may be prescribed on premises giving access to such an office, any advertisement is published—(a) indicating that any particular premises are a licensed betting office; or (b) indicating where any such office may be found; or (c) drawing attention to the availability of, or to the facilities afforded to persons resorting to, such offices, then, in the case of an advertisement in connection with the office or offices of a particular licensee, that licensee, and in every case any person who published the advertisement or caused or permitted it to be published, shall be guilty of an offence ..."

Mr John Marriage, QC, and Mr Rodney Smith for Windsors; Mr Stephen Williamson for Mr Oldfield.

Mr Alan Jones for Mr Boulton; Mr Gareth Williams, QC, and Mr Anthony Evans for Coral.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON said that both appeals raised the question whether it was permissible for advertisements to be put up inside the window of a licensed betting office in such a way that they could not, or could not normally be read by anyone inside the betting office, but were fully visible to passers-by and others outside the office.

In the Windsors case, it was not disputed that the displayed poster constituted an advertisement drawing attention to the availability of or to the facilities afforded to persons resorting to licensed betting offices. That issue had not been decided in the Coral case and did not now arise for decision. However, in the interests of simplicity it was assumed that the Coral posters also constituted such advertisements.

The advertisements were clearly published, exhibited and displayed. On the binding authority of *Dunsford v Pearson* ([1970] 1 WLR 222) they were not exhibited in the betting offices, because they were not visible to anyone in the premises.

On the binding authority of *R v Newcastle upon Tyne Gaming Licensing Committee, Ex parte White Hart Enterprises Ltd* ([1977] 1 WLR 1135) the posters were displayed outside the premises. It would be anomalous to hold that although they were not exhibited in the betting office, and were displayed outside it, they were not published outside the betting office. His Lordship was quite satisfied that as a matter of law they were so published.

That conclusion was fatal to the appeal of Windsors.

In the Coral case their Lordships were asked whether to constitute an advertisement for the purposes of section 10(5)(c), an advertisement which drew attention to the facilities provided by licensed premises must state as a fact that the premises to which it was affixed was a licensed betting office. There was no reason whatsoever why the advertisement should make such a statement. The offence was committed if it was affixed to a hoarding deep in the country, provided only that it drew attention to the availability of or to the facilities afforded to persons resorting to, such offices.

The Coral case would therefore have to be remitted to the magistrate for him to consider whether the poster constituted an advertisement.

Mr Justice Forbes agreed.

Solicitors: Gosschalk, Wheldon & Co, Hull; Mr M. D. Shaffner, Wakefield.

Darley, Cumberland & Co for Mr J. H. Timmons, Cardiff; John Morse & Co, Swansea.

Jurisdiction to set aside consent orders

Thwaite v Thwaite

Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Dunn and Mr Justice Wood

[Judgment delivered January 29]

A judge who set aside part of a consent order in matrimonial proceedings on the ground that the wife had no intention of carrying out the agreement on which the order was based, was held by the Court of Appeal to have jurisdiction so to do.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by Mrs Susan Maria Thwaite from two orders of Judge Goodall at Exeter County Court. By the first he set aside that part of a consent order which required her husband, Mr Anthony Arthur Albert Thwaite, to convey his interest in the former matrimonial home in Howells Road, Exeter, to her. By the second he gave directions for new financial provision for the wife to which she did not consent.

Mrs Barbara Calvert, QC, and Mr John Dickson for the wife; Mr Joseph Jackson, QC, and Mr David Tyzack for the husband.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the parties married in 1967 and three daughters were born between 1968 and 1972. The house was purchased in joint names with a mortgage as a home in England, although for most of the marriage the parties lived abroad.

In 1976, while living in Bombay, they separated. The wife went to Australia, where she set up home with a Mr Davis. The children eventually joined her.

In 1977 the husband filed a petition for divorce in England, and a decree nisi was pronounced. The wife applied for ancillary relief and the matter came on for hearing on April 30, 1979, before Mr Registrar Lowis. A consent order was made.

On the wife undertaking to return the children to England and Wales before June 30, 1979, and on the husband undertaking to pay school fees for each child, the husband was ordered to convey his interest in the house in Howells Road to the wife within 28 days of the family returning to this country, and all the wife's other applications for ancillary relief were to stand dismissed from the date of conveyance. In addition there was an order for periodical payments for each child at the rate of £51 a month. Liberty to apply was given to both parties.

In May, 1979, the children returned to England. There was a delay by the husband's solicitors in completing the conveyance of the Howells Road house, and in August, before the husband executed the conveyance, the wife removed the children from the jurisdiction and returned to Australia without informing the husband or his solicitors. The children went back to the same *school in Australia where they had* been before.

The husband declined to complete the transfer of his interest in the house to the wife on the ground that he had agreed to the transfer on the understanding that the wife would make a home there for the children, and arrange for them to attend a local school. The basis of the agreement had, therefore, been completely destroyed by the wife's return to Australia with the children.

An application by the husband to vary the consent order was dismissed by the registrar, who ordered him to complete the transfer.

The judge allowed the husband's appeal from the order to complete the conveyance but dismissed his appeal against the refusal to vary the consent order. He thought that he had no power to allow his appeal from the consent order because such an appeal seemed to him "anomalous". But he decided that in the circumstances he could set aside the financial provisions of the consent order under the "liberty to apply".

Further, the judge made a nominal order for periodical payments and an order for a lump sum of £1,000, and increased the periodical payments for the children to £75 a month each. He also ordered the house to be sold.

The leading case on the effect of consent orders in the matrimonial jurisdiction was *de Lasala v de Lasala* ([1980] AC 546), an appeal to the Privy Council from Hongkong. Lord Diplock said, at p 560: "Financial arrangements that are agreed upon between the parties for the purpose of receiving the approval and being made the subject of a consent order by the court; once they have been made the subject of a court order no longer depend upon the agreement of the parties as the source from which their legal effect is derived. Their legal effect is derived from the court order. ..."

That statement of principle was effectively binding on their Lordships because the relevant provisions of the Hong Kong Ordinance were identical to the corresponding provisions of the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973. It removed much of the confusion about consent orders in the matrimonial jurisdiction. It did, however, represent a significant departure from the general principle, frequently stated in cases arising in other divisions of the High Court, that the force and effect of consent orders derived from the contract between the parties leading to, or evidenced by, or incorporated in, the consent orders. A distinction, therefore, had to be made between consent orders made in cases like the present and in other types of litigation.

The distinction was a necessary consequence of the decision in the House of Lords in *Minton v Minton* ([1979] AC 593) that the policy *underlying sections 23(1) and 24(1)* of the 1973 Act was to permit the parties to a divorce to make a "clean break" in financial matters, if they wished, from which there was no going back.

If the legal effect of a consent order of the present kind depended on the agreement between the parties it would be difficult to avoid the conclusion that it was a "subsisting maintenance agreement" within the terms of section 35 of the Act and, consequently, subject to variation by the court under its powers under that section. That would defeat the policy of a "clean break".

Eliminating the contractual basis of consent orders should simplify the problems. If their legal effect was derived from the court order it must follow that they must be treated as orders of the court and dealt with, so far as possible, in the same way as non-consensual orders. So if the order was one of those listed in section 31(2) of the 1973 Act, it could be varied in accordance with the terms of that section: *Brister v Brister* ([1970] 1 WLR 664). But if it was not within the list, it could not be varied by the court of first instance.

As orders of the court, they must be subject to the provisions which applied to appeals from orders made at first instance, though with one exception. Where the court of first instance had not adjudicated upon the evidence, its decision could not be challenged on the ground that the court had reached a wrong conclusion on the evidence before it. Final orders of all kinds, however, could be challenged on appeal and might be set aside on other grounds. Lord Diplock referred to two such grounds, fraud and mistake, but there were others, eg fresh evidence properly admitted by the appellate court. In the matrimonial jurisdiction final orders, which were non-consensual, might also be set aside for material non-disclosure.

Where the order was still *executory, as in the present case*, and one of the parties applied to the court to enforce it, the court might refuse if, in the circumstances *prevailing* at the time of the application, it would be inequitable to do so.

The *dismissal of the husband's* appeal from the registrar's order dismissing his application to vary the consent order was right. The order in question was a final order in the sense that it was not an *order within section 31(2) of the* Act, so that there was no jurisdiction to vary it.

Allowing the husband's appeal against the registrar's order to complete the conveyance was also right. There was jurisdiction to refuse to make the order and, as the judge found that the wife had "broken her side of the bargain in a material particular", it would have been inequitable to enforce the order.

But *the judge* was wrong in thinking that he had no jurisdiction to hear an appeal from the consent order in the circumstances of the present case. He could have set it aside on the basis of the fresh evidence, not available when the consent order was made on April 30, 1979, as to the wife's intention to make a home for herself and the children in Howells Road. The order was based on the belief that she had a settled *intention* to do so; the fresh evidence proved, as the judge found, that she had no such settled intention. He was wrong, however, in holding that he had jurisdiction to do that under the liberty to apply.

Notwithstanding the wife's refusal to consent to his doing so, the judge was entitled, in his discretion, to make the new order for ancillary relief in the wife's favour. His jurisdiction arose, not from the liberty to apply as he held, but from the *fact* that the wife's original application for ancillary relief was still before the court and awaiting adjudication.

The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Fishman, Wallace & Co; Dunn & Baker, Exeter.

Admiralty Court rejects American approach

The Jogoo

Before Mr Justice Sheen

[Judgment delivered January 30]

The Admiralty Court refused cargo owners a declaration that the cost of discharging cargo from an arrested ship—which they had borne—should rank pari passu with the charges of the Admiralty Marshal in selling the ship.

His Lordship said that the Admiralty Court had consistently taken the view that cargo owners must pay for the removal of their cargo in the event of the contract of carriage not been completed. He rejected the American approach, that from the moment of arrest a ship was regarded as a common fund administered by the court for the common benefit of all with interests in the fund and that any expense in discharging cargo should be borne by the fund itself as an "expense of justice". Such an approach was incompatible with English case law.

Mr Geoffrey Kinley for the cargo owners, the interveners; Mr Jonathan Mance for the plaintiffs, the mortgagees.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the Eastern Africa National Shipping Line Company Ltd, a company incorporated in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, which had bought the Jogoo, failed to make the payments due under the mortgage deeds. On March 27, 1980, the mortgagees arrested the vessel at Newport, Gwent. She had 5,500 tons of mixed cargo, about half being copper destined for Antwerp. On an application on April 16 by most of the 100 cargo owners the court ordered that the Admiralty Marshal permit the discharge of all the cargo, and the cargo was discharged between April 23 and June 2.

On June 9 judgment was given for the plaintiffs, the mortgagees, for DM11,444,311 principal and interest. Eventually the ship was sold by the Admiralty Marshal for US$4,500,000. The mortgagees could not recover out of the proceeds of sale the full amount for which they had obtained judgment.

The cargo owners intervened and sought a declaration that the cost of discharging the cargo which had been borne by them should rank pari passu with the charges and expenses incurred by the Admiralty Marshal in executing the commission of appraisement and sale of the Jogoo and that that cost should be a first charge on the proceeds of sale.

For the cargo owners it was submitted that the vessel could not have been sold so easily while she was laden with cargo. Therefore the cargo had to be discharged and the cost was part of the cost of selling the *ship*. As they had borne the cost of discharging *they* were *entitled* to be reimbursed out of the proceeds of sale in priority to the claim of the mortgagees.

The mortgagees said that the cargo owners had a claim against the shipowners for damages for breach of contract. Such a claim could not be elevated into a secured claim with priority over that of the mortgagees.

Mr Kinley *submitted* that when a vessel had been arrested in proceedings in rem any expense reasonably incurred which conferred a benefit on the res by enhancing its value should be reimbursed out of the proceeds of sale. A plaintiff who arrested a vessel took the vessel as she was, and if laden with cargo the cost of discharging it was part of the cost of realizing the security.

His Lordship had been referred *to The Poznan* ((1927) 1 AMC 723), a decision of the United States Supreme Court, and to *The Emilia* ((1963) AMC 1447). In the latter the United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, said that the discharge of cargo was a service furnished on the authority of the court and should be paid out of the proceeds of sale as "an expense of justice".

Counsel had sought to persuade his Lordship to give new heart *and practice to English Admiralty* law and practice by transplanting those decisions from the United States. In his Lordship's judgment, however, those decisions were incompatible with the sound body of English case law and must be rejected.

On behalf of the mortgagees Mr Mance had pointed out that the cargo had been carried under a contract of carriage; one term of which was that freight was prepaid at Mombasa. When freight was paid in advance, cargo owners accepted a commercial risk that the voyage might not be completed. If the contract was frustrated the cargo owner bore the loss because the Law Reform (Frustrated Contracts) Act, 1943, did not apply to the carriage of goods by sea.

Mr Mance pointed out that the cargo owners had intervened because they were anxious to have the cargo discharged for their own benefit. *Furthermore*, the *court* had not ordered the cargo to be discharged, nor at that time had the Jogoo been ordered to be sold.

The English practice was stated in *Roscoe's Admiralty Practice* (5th edn, p 287): "When the Marshal has in his custody a vessel with cargo on board, and he is ordered to sell the vessel only, the cargo owners would be given a reasonable time by the court wherein to effect the unlivery of the cargo, but if the unlivery is not effected in the time fixed, the cargo owners will thereafter be ordered to pay the cost of the detention of the vessel for which they may be responsible".

The same point had arisen in Hongkong in *The Mingren Development* ((1979) HKLR 159) in which Mr Justice Cons decided that the expenses of *off*-loading and storing the cargo had to be taken first from the securities lodged by the cargo claimants. The judge said: "... the English position derives from the old common law doctrine of frustration. American courts have approached from a different direction. ... The present position was confirmed in 1943 when contracts for the carriage of goods by sea were deliberately excluded from the operation of the Law Reform (Frustrated Contracts) Act. I am not persuaded that the American approach is so much more just or that conditions now are so different from those in 1943 that I should take it upon myself to make a general change." His Lordship agreed with the decision.

The Admiralty Court had consistently taken the view that cargo *owners must pay for the removal* of their own cargo in the event of the contract of carriage not being completed by the shipowners and then make a claim against the shipowners. That was correct in principle, and the motion for the cargo owners must fail.

Solicitors: Ince & Co; Richards, Butler & Co.

Wider meaning of 'fees'

Anderson v British Midland Airways Ltd

Where an airline pilot was required by his employers to change his normal place of employment from Teesside to the Midlands and his contract provided that the employers would pay him "all standard legal fees" incurred in connexion wil the sale of his former home and the purchase of a house in the Midlands, the employers were held liable by the Court of Appeal, for £670 stamp duty on the conveyance of the house to him.

The court dismissed an appeal by the employers, British Midland Airways Ltd, against Judge Heald's judgment at Nottingham County Court holding in favour of the plaintiff, Captain Thomas Leslie Anderson, of Edwalton, Nottingham, that stamp duty was included in the words "payment of all standard legal fees in connexion with the purchase" of the new house.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the solicitors' bill of £1,212 included £670 stamp duty and Land Registry and search fees. Fees could be given the narrow meaning of remuneration due to a *professional man* or a *wider meaning* which also included disbursements. On the true interpretation of "all standard legal fees" it included the items in the solicitors' bill representing the standard fees incurred in connexion with the purchase of the house.

It was the intention of the parties that the pilot should be remunerated for the expenses of the removal. The wider meaning of "fees" prevailed. The appeal *should be dismissed*.

Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Watkins agreed.

Review of the weather last year

Spring drought then wettest June in England and Wales since 1879

By John Grindley
Meteorological Office

General rainfall for 1980 as a whole was a little above average over each of the countries of the United Kingdom but, as usual, there were some marked variations in the incidence of rainfall throughout the year.

The winter, October, 1979, to March, 1980, was wet generally, Northern Ireland having the wettest winter in 79 years, but it was also relatively free from snow and cold. In many lowland areas the most severe weather occurred in mid-March when snowfalls were quite widespread: even then, amounts were not large in the south.

In contrast to the previous year when the spring, March to May, was the wettest for 250 years over England and Wales, April and May were exceptionally dry over the United Kingdom. Over England and Wales generally, it was the driest April and May combined since 1896 and over Scotland and Northern Ireland there have been no drier such periods since the start of the historical rainfall records in 1869 and 1900 respectively.

The period of the drought was not entirely rainless: in particular, heavy local falls occurred about May 19 and towards the end of that month. In general, however, the dry weather continued for the first week of June in the south.

After the wet winter, underground and surface water reserves were good and water supply was little affected. The drought was mainly of agricultural significance and even then of no great import for established crops, though the number of forest and heathland fires was disturbing.

The conclusion of the drought, as with so many other droughts, was marked by an exceptional rainy spell. There has been no wetter June than that of 1980 since 1879 over England and Wales and since 1872 over Scotland.

Although the summer, June to August, aided by the wet June, was wetter than average over the United Kingdom, rainfall for July to August combined was barely more than average for England and Wales and the two months were rather dry over Northern Ireland.

In Scotland, each of the summer months was wet generally, with regional exceptions, Shetland having a good summer with less than 75 per cent of average rainfall. But for Scotland as a whole, the summer was the second wettest in the 112 years' series, June to August, 1877, being wetter.

The wet weather continued relentlessly *in Scotland and each of* the seven months up to the end of the year had substantially more than average rainfall. Total rainfall for the period was not only the highest on record for June to December but was also the highest *for any seven consecutive months*.

Much of the excess rainfall occurred in the hilly west, where the sequence of heavy rainfalls in predominantly westerly, winter situations is something not easily *appreciated by residents in well* populated lowlands. At Inverarnan to the north of Loch Lomond, for example, amounts exceeded 20mm on nine days out of 11 in November, 1980. On average, such falls occur about twice a year in London.

Some of the most spectacular rainfall distributions are associated with moving thunderstorms or thundery cells within frontal systems. The path of such movements *is* often marked by a *swathe* of heavy rainfall no more than a few score miles wide, with decay and rejuvenation of cells indicated by small areas of extra heavy rainfall within the swathe.

The summer of 1980 was particularly rich in such events, their diversity often clearly recorded daily by the splendid rain-gauge network in the United Kingdom. But analysis of the rainfall fields, aided by an increasing number of radar measurements, reveals even more complex patterns.

The map shows the distribution of rainfall as a percentage of the annual average. The most notable features are high percentage values in north Lincolnshire, Lancashire, Isle of Man, Sutherland, west Galloway and Belfast. Lowest values, about 80 per cent, occurred to the west of Cambridge. Among the largest and smallest annual totals were 4,538mm at Llydaw, on Snowdon, and 455mm at Fowlmere, near Cambridge.

RAINFALL 1980
Percentage of annual average for the years 1941-1970

General values of rainfall are given in the following table:

	1980 mm	1941-70 av mm	Diff from av mm	% of av
England	898	837	+61	107
Wales	1443	1385	+58	104
England & Wales	976	912	+64	107
Scotland	1551	1431	+120	108
N Ireland	1157	1095	+62	106

Annual totals for representative stations are:

	mm	Per cent of average 1941-70
London (St James's)	575	94
Margate	496	86
Worthing	858	120
Bristol	796	102
Cambridge	604	91
Plymouth	950	96
Penzance	1,203	110
Birmingham	805	111
Carlisle	980	110
Bradford	897	115
Hull	832	129
Middlesbrough	702	119
Lowestoft	564	94
Cardiff	1,222	99
Conway	857	107
Aberporth	827	87
Builth Wells	1,138	97
Douglas	1,398	123
Eskdalemuir	1,627	108
Edinburgh	672	100
Prestwick	1,137	125
Glasgow	1,054	109
Islay (Eallabus)	1,437	117
Faskally	873	99
Braemar	936	108
Inverness	778	117
Montrose	786	108
Skye (Portree)	1,775	100
Stornoway	1,230	112
Wick	871	111
Lerwick	1,073	92
Armagh	848	98
Londonderry	955	98
Belfast	975	104

There were two rather quiet spells from January 4 to 18 and *January 23 to 27*. In parts of south-east England, including London, a fortnight or more without measurable precipitation occurred from January 4. January 3 was a day of unusually widespread occurred on June 5, with several general rainfall with most of England, Wales and southern Scotland recording more than 10mm: more than 50mm was reported on the hills of Wales and the Lake District.

February was a mainly unsettled month with only brief drier periods; the most notable extending from February 22 to March 4 over much of Scotland and Northern Ireland. The first week of February was notably wet in southern Britain and February 4 was the second wettest day of the year in Northern Ireland: values exceeded 50mm on the Mourne Mountains and over the Welsh mountains and Lake District.

As noted, a spell of wintry weather occurred from March 16, the worst of it in Wales and northern England, where snow drifted and roads were blocked. Heavy rain fell on March 9-10 in areas around the Irish Sea, including Isle of Man where there was even heavier rainfall on March 16-17; in Northern Ireland, general rainfall was 27mm on March 9-10.

Little rainfall of note occurred in *April* and May, *although* weather became more unsettled towards the end of May. As much as three weeks without rainfall were reported in separate periods and in different parts of the United Kingdom from April 2 and from the last week in April to May 18. Totals of 1mm were recorded over much of Lancashire and Cheshire in April.

June was notable for many thunderstorms, some recurring on several days *with almost tropical* regularity. The first major storms different northward tracks. The most severe storm originated in Rossendale Forest and was orientated towards Cheviot.

The development of that storm was observed in detail by the recently installed rainfall radar at Hameldon Hill, Lancashire. Values exceeded 40mm on a line from Forfar to Banff, and a tornado caused considerable damage at Nairn. Bands of heavy rainfall straddled England on June 10.

On June 11, an area of heavy rainfall covered southern Scotland and northern England, with more than 50mm on the Northumbrian coast. That pattern of heavy, often banded rainfall over one area or other in the United Kingdom was repeated up to June 16. On June 13, for example, values exceeded 20mm from the Sussex coast to the Northampton Uplands, with more than 40mm on the Downs and to the west of London.

In a thundery spell from June 22, 116mm was recorded on June 25 in 1½ hours at Sevenoaks, Kent: That is the second heaviest fall for such a duration on record for the United Kingdom (the intensity in the Hampstead Heath storm of August, 1975, was greater). Like the Hampstead storm, the area extent of the heavy rainfall was remarkably restricted. On June 30, an area of heavy rainfall (locally more than 50mm) extended from Suffolk, across the east Midlands to the central Pennines.

The unsettled weather apparent from the end of May continued throughout July, with brief drier intervals. Again, the rainfall tended to fall in heavy storms, the spatial incidence of which varied so that some places experienced *small amounts throughout* the month. In Sussex, heavy rain fell on July 1 and July 6-7, when *84mm was* recorded at Eastbourne. On July 13, a band of heavy rainfall extended from Cambridgeshire across the south Midlands to Carmarthen Bay with a separate band along the Sussex coast.

Bands of heavy rainfall extended on July 25 from the New Forest to Northamptonshire (where 79mm was recorded at Pitsford), in a narrower band from the Black Mountains to the Mersey and in a wider band from Ayrshire to Orkney. On July 26, there was a similar distribution but with a slightly different orientation of the most easterly band from the Weald to Northamptonshire.

Northern Ireland is not noted for heavy short-period rainfall: extremes for durations up to two hours are much lower than those for Britain. On August 1, however, 97mm fell in 45 minutes at *Orra Beg on the Antrim Plateau*, a United Kingdom record for such a duration.

The unsettled weather which had characterized the summer continued for a further three weeks in August but on about August 21 a break to much drier settled weather occurred over southern Britain and this drier spell was maintained to mid-September (with the exception of one notably wet day).

Prior to the break, heavy rainfall, more than 12mm, fell on September 7 over midland England and southern Scotland. Heaviest falls occurred along a line from north Norfolk to the Northampton Uplands: more than 100mm was recorded near Fakenham.

Possibly the most spectacular storm of the year occurred on September 14, the wettest day of the year over England and Wales. The band of heaviest rainfall extended from the *New Forest*, through the east Midlands to the North York Moors and out over the sea to east Aberdeenshire: amounts exceeded 60mm along the swathe of heaviest rainfall (the highest total was 107mm at Weekley, *Northamptonshire*).

Similar, narrower bands lay to east and west of that main swathe. A day of exceptionally heavy rainfall occurred on August 29, the wettest day of the year over Scotland generally and possibly one of the three wettest days in 15 years there. Areas of heaviest rainfall lay in the Lake District, the Southern Uplands (especially the Lammermuir Hills) and in the Ayrshire-Loch Lomond region.

Weather remained rather unsettled in September in northern Britain and September 4 and 6 were days of notably heavy rainfall in western Scotland: 121mm was recorded in Broadford, Skye on *September 6. In the south*, there were several fairly dry spells in the month: at Shoeburyness, for example, the fortnight from September 21 was rain free.

Days of outstanding rainfall were September 11 in Scotland when amounts approached 100mm in the hilly area between Loch Lomond and Ben Nevis and September 20 when a storm cell crossing the Sussex coast tracked northwards to Snowdon. Heaviest *rainfall, about 100mm, occurred* at Worthing and even as far north as the Dee Valley, 40mm was recorded. On the other hand at Brighton, a little to the east of Worthing only 5mm was recorded.

Worthing, indeed, was particularly ill-fated, for apart from sharing in the heavy rainfall of June and the storm of September 20, another 100mm *storm* afflicted the town three weeks later on October 10.

The pattern of heavy *rainfall on* the second occasion was more diffuse but the heaviest rainfall was again at Worthing, where an unofficial recording of 133mm was made at Durrington, equal highest total of the year for a "rainfall day" (a similar amount was recorded at a *Snowdon* station on November 21).

A fall of 100mm in 24 hours may be expected to recur, on average, less frequently than once in 200 years in Sussex and the *Worthing* citizens may feel aggrieved that two such storms were experienced within three weeks. The statistical basis for assigning recurrence periods does not preclude this eventuality.

Apart from a drier spell at the end, October was thoroughly unsettled. Among the days of heaviest rainfall were October 6, when only extreme eastern Scotland and north-east England *escaped heavy rain, and October* 15. Perhaps the most outstanding wet spell of the year occurred *from October 21 to 27* when again areas around the Irish Sea were most affected.

In Northern Ireland, rainfall was heaviest on October 20 to 22 and caused some of the worst flooding for years in the province (general rainfall amounted to 52mm for the three days). More than 100mm was recorded on October 26-27 in the *Bowland* Forest and, from October 22 *to* 27 values exceeded 250mm there and 300mm in Snowdonia. Extensive and costly flooding followed the rainfall in north-west England, particularly the Wyre and Ribble valleys, and in North Wales.

The first 12 days of November were rather dry over most of the United Kingdom, although very heavy rain fell in the far west of Fermanagh and the Outer Hebrides on November 1 and over *the Pennines and Lincolnshire* on November 7. An unsettled spell began about November 13 and the period up to November 24 was very wet over Scotland.

The wettest day *in southern* Britain was November 14, when amounts exceeded 50mm quite widely in the western hills. More than 100 mm was recorded on November 21 in Snowdonia and the wettest day over Scotland was November 24 when heavy rain fell *from Loch Lomond to the Pentland* Hills and also in Harris and the Sutherland hills.

The November pattern of heavy precipitation in the north and relatively dry weather in southern Britain was repeated in December. Most of the rainfall in the south occurred between December 9 and 19, but heavy falls occurred frequently in Scotland and Northern Ireland, the wettest days being December 9, *14, 23 and 30. Snowfall* was frequent in the north and drifting shortly after Christmas caused traffic disruption.

MONTHLY RAINFALL

Monthly rainfall is shown in the table in millimetres and as a percentage of average for the month.

	England and Wales		Scotland		N Ireland	
	mm	%	mm	%	mm	%
January	79	92	119	87	115	111
February	93	143	102	98	99	132
March	103	175	116	126	113	161
April	19	33	20	22	19	28
May	32	48	28	31	37	51
June	126	267	149	162	117	148
July	72	99	125	112	85	91
August	95	107	146	113	64	82
September	67	81	172	128	118	110
October	131	158	187	126	148	138
November	87	90	181	127	86	86
December	71	79	206	132	134	118

THE ARTS

Opening up a wardrobe packed full of personalities

Lily Tomlin kept on the move. She fidgeted on the sofa—"It's far too slumpy"—sat on the hard arm for a while, then stood upright, breaking occasionally into toe-touching exercises. All the time she kept up with the questions, rattling off facts and opinions about herself and her career. She is in London to publicize her film *Nine to Five*, which opens today.

Nine to Five is a comedy about the unglamorous and rarely credited work of women office workers. The idea was taken up by Jane Fonda who chose Lily Tomlin and Dolly Parton, the country singer, to join her. The film is ambitious, hoping to convince men and women of the merits of feminism through comedy. It is particularly pertinent, to Lily Tomlin, who first became known here and in the United States as an office worker, the dotty switchboard operator in Rowan and Martin's *Laugh-In*.

She had been discovered in New York, doing character monologues in coffee houses at a time when musicians were the most usual incidental entertainment. It was her stock of instantly attractive characters which most appealed to the *Laugh-In* scriptwriters. They could write for Lily Tomlin's established wardrobe of personalities.

She shared her agent with Robert Altman who decided to use her in *Nashville* as the mother of deaf children who falls for a young singer. Altman's style of extemporized acting fitted her ability to invent characters. "*Nashville* was filmed chronologically and so we never quite knew what was going to happen. We made it up as we went along, day by day. We lived like one big family and were all interested to know what would happen in the story. I was really involved. I would say to Altman, I don't think she should go to bed with him, he's so shallow."

Her scenes with the deaf children are memorable. "There is a school for deaf children at Knoxville. It was the summer vacation and these two were brought over for audition and Altman just bought them. The little boy was far more oral. His mother had been more supportive and brought more out of him. I came to know a lot of his stories and, when shooting started, I would say, tell us about when you got your swimming certificate, and he was a natural actor. I studied sign language for three months, but I never really mastered it. I would memorize phrases."

Nashville was followed by a successful one-woman show on Broadway which led to her next two film projects. "I am sure it was Altman who cast me in Robert Benton's *The Late Show*. Benton had preferred Robert Mitchum as the private eye and Valerie Perring in my part. Again, Sam Cohn is the agent for Altman, Benton and me. It was like doing an Altman movie. We didn't do much improvisation. Being a writer, Benton was much more interested in structure."

Next came *Moment by Moment*, acting the older woman lover to John Travolta, then hot property after *Saturday Night Fever* and *Grease*. "I knew John a little and we were aware that we resembled one another. He came to see me on Broadway and he loved my show so much he told Robert Stigwood that he wanted to do a movie with me. I had seen scenes from *Saturday Night Fever* and thought he was wonderful.

"I am 15 years older than Travolta. We became very friendly. He liked my characters and would do male versions of them. I had one called Tess who is a shopping-bag woman, one of those people who live on the streets with all their possessions in shopping bags. He used to do a bag-man called Larry. When shooting we would be in bed together playing bag-people before a take.

"John and I were surprised by the failure of *Moment by Moment*. There was very harsh criticism in the States. There was a great deal of expectation. John had been in *Fever* and *Grease* which had both made something like 150 million dollars. And I had had a lot of critical success in my career. We were on a press junket, giving interviews across the country, and we were very naive about it. It just came like an avalanche. It is upon you when you notice it is coming. We just thought the film was sweet."

Jane Fonda cast Lily Tomlin in *Nine to Five* after seeing her in a concert and the parts were written especially for the three of them. "Dolly, Jane and I became such good friends, we got so close. It was so mushy. I am very sympathetic to Jane's causes. I do not consider them to be radical. I don't think that the politics in *Nine to Five* are revolutionary. We show three women who get along amazingly well. That is worth saying in itself.

"All clerical workers do not even want to acknowledge that they are secretaries. It is a demeaned position. They are embarrassed. They know that they are of value and they really feel that they make a contribution. It celebrates them. Just mentioning arguments like this in a movie, they become part of the consciousness.

"Getting the coffee isn't the issue. It is because getting the coffee is an activity identified with women and therefore second best. You can't quite be first-rate if you get the coffee. It is an awareness we are talking about and it takes a long time."

Lily Tomlin's next film also deals with women's issues. It is *The Shrinking Woman*, about a dedicated wife who starts reducing in size after trying out an untested new product for her husband. The gallant woman continues her usual chores, despite her height. "We did one scene with an enormous set like a kitchen surface. The sink is about 60-80 feet long, and I am inches tall, still struggling to fry the bacon. It is very funny, though sad, because all her instincts make her battle on and do her duty."

Nicholas Wapshott

Lily Tomlin in *Nine to Five*

LPO/Sanderling
Festival Hall
William Mann

We in Britain first learned to respect Kurt Sanderling from records of Russian music made during his years of conducting in Russia. He has long since returned to his native Germany; during his current period of work with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, he will give us a programme of Rachmaninov, but on Tuesday night he stayed with the German masters—or rather, Austrian, since the composers were Mozart and Bruckner.

The symphony was Bruckner's third, sometimes called the Wagner Symphony, because it is dedicated to him, and originally contained quotations from Wagner. Wisely, no doubt, Bruckner removed those last, at an early stage. It would be fascinating to hear that original version, or at least know what was quoted there; traces can still be heard of possible references to *The Ring* (I have counted three), but they are not now as significant as Bruckner's debts to Beethoven and Schubert, which were to remain fundamental to his symphonic language.

If Wagner's name had never been mentioned, Bruckner's third symphony would still command attention and affection because so much of the seminal Bruckner is to be heard in it for the first time, and so much that is perfectly typical of his musical imagination, even though it may have to trace an exact parallel elsewhere. A famous example is the second subject of the finale, an elegant dance-measure for strings directly confronted by a solemn chorale on the brass: its inspiration was, supposedly, a festive ball just across the street from which the corpse of a notability was lying in state. The explanation is convincing.

This was one passage potently realized in Sanderling's interpretation, not merely simultaneous light and shade, but lilting elegance tripping out from the sombre half-light and stillness of the hymnody. He realized the beginning of that finale vividly too, like a flight of cawing rooks approaching from over treetops. The scherzo was scrupulously, and poetically, paced and balanced. Throughout he drew string playing of singular sweetness, though perfectly firm, from the LPO whose brass, however, could have profited from a firmer directorial hand.

It was a strong, attractive, properly classical reading, a fair match for that of Mozart's F major piano concerto, K459, in which Jean-Bernard Pommier took on the solo part for the lately deceased, and regretted, Hans Richter-Haaser—a young man's response, but sage as well as keen.

BBC Singers/Poole
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Paul Griffiths

It is all too easy to confuse national character in music with the particular qualities of an outstanding composer's style; to assume, for instance, that there is something specifically Hungarian in Bartok's music that ought to be expressed too by his compatriots. The falseness of that notion was well demonstrated on Tuesday by the BBC Singers under John Poole in a programme that started with Bartok and continued with pieces by two later Hungarian composers, Ligeti's *Lux aeterna* and György Kurtag's *Omaggio a Luigi Nono*, neither of which sounded particularly Hungarian simply because neither of them is at all Bartok-like.

Ligeti, of course, has the excuse of having been an exile for much of his life, but Kurtag, his close contemporary and fellow Transylvanian, stayed at home: he is, indeed, generally regarded as Hungary's foremost living composer. He is also an engagingly modest artist. The new piece for unaccompanied chorus, here being performed for the first time, is only his sixteenth opus, and, like many of its predecessors, it is concise and unpretentious.

The homage to Nono is misleading. The text of the work is in Russian, beginning with a declension of the word "whose" and continuing with a sequence of poetic fragments which I take to make up a statement on the illusory nature of freedom. The music, similarly, has little to do with the Italian musician and much more with Webern, in the neat design, the motivic building and even the floating harmony of the earlier sections, although at the end the music enters a world of still, rich, glowing textures that is perhaps Kurtag's own. Mr Poole and his choir did it full justice, which was not surprising after the muscular vigour and the firm control of slippery harmony they had shown in Bartok's Four Hungarian Folk-songs, whose unalarming title hides one of his most challenging works of the early 1930s.

After the interval there was the London première, with John Scott exuberant at the organ, and Gareth Roberts a pure tenor soloist, of Maxwell Davies's cantata *Solstice of Light*, a miracle of fresh simplicity and undeniably, surely, Orkney music to the bone.

Arts agenda

London may not have the chance to see Peter Ustinov's *King Lear* in the immediate future, but instead it is being offered the latest product of his pen: a comedy entitled *Overheard*, which is his first new stage work since the early 1970s.

Rehearsals for the production started this week, and the play has attracted back to the stage two stars who have not been seen in the West End for some years, Deborah Kerr and Ian Carmichael was last in the West End in the short-lived production of *Out on a Limb* in 1976. *Overheard* is due to open at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in April, after *Virginia*, with Maggie Smith, ends its run.

■ One of the worst disasters to hit the art world in recent years came in 1978 when a fire at the Museum of Modern Art in Rio de Janeiro destroyed about 1,000 works, including paintings by Picasso, Klee, Ernst and Magritte, as well as almost the complete works of the Uruguayan painter Joaquin Torres Garcia. The museum is now back in action, and, with the help of an appeal to artists all over the world, its walls are being gradually restocked with pictures.

In Britain, the Brazilian Embassy says it was marvellously surprised by the response to its appeal for works to be donated to the museum. Among the works by British artists which will shortly be sent to Brazil are collections of screenprints, a painting given by John Hoyland, a bronze sculpture loaned by the Henry Moore foundation and a set of 12 aquatints by Patrick Proctor, donated by the Redfern Gallery.

Other countries from which works have been donated include France, Spain, Ireland and Japan, but the Brazilians seem to have drawn a virtual blank from two of the countries which lead the world of modern art: from the USA and Germany there have been gifts of books and catalogues, but no paintings.

■ After his success with the English version of Schnitzler's *Undiscovered Country* at the National Theatre, Tom Stoppard is now preparing another Austrian play for the National; this time it will be a farce by Johann Nestroy, *Einen Jux will er sich machen*. Stoppard says the National's director, Sir Peter Hall, came back from Vienna saying that they had to do the work, so the playwright is now translating it and preparing an English edition.

Einen Jux, based originally on an English play, has been fount of much theatrical success: it was adapted by Thornton Wilder into *The Matchmaker*, which was then turned into the musical *Hello, Dolly!* Stoppard says that Wilder had made the story, about two shopworkers having their fling, into "a rather more high-class comedy; Nestroy's play was much more of a romp—a sort of nineteenth-century Morecambe and Wise". And that is the way he is doing it, with lots of jokes.

■ Last week the cast of the musical *I and Albert*, including Polly James, Sven-Bertil Taube and Aubrey Woods, finished recording an LP of the show. Readers could be forgiven for not having heard of *I and Albert*; it actually opened in the West End more than eight years ago, and closed only 12 weeks later. But the fans of musicals have not forgotten.

No cast album of the show was recorded at the time and John Yapp, who owns the Covent Garden shop specializing in show music, That's Entertainment, says they keep receiving requests for a recording of *I and Albert*. So he decided to meet the demand by making a somewhat belated recording of the score, reassembling the original cast for the occasion. Even at £9.99 each, he expects to sell a limited edition of 2,500 copies within a couple of months.

"There are enough people worldwide to support a limited edition of any musical", he believes. He has just released an LP of *The Biograph Girl*, and, although the show has already closed he has no doubts that the records will sell. Recording old shows is a new venture, but, if *I and Albert* proves a success, then he has several more in mind. The next is likely to be *Thomas and the King*, which was "a monumental failure" in the West End five years ago.

■ Elijah Moshinsky is expected to be the director of the 1984 Adelaide Festival. He follows Jim Sharman, who is in charge of the 1982 festival. Moshinsky had a considerable success last week in Paris when he adapted his Covent Garden production of *Peter Grimes* for the Opéra. Next month at Covent Garden he directs the new staging of Verdi's *Macbeth*.

NOT TO BE MISSED: Julie Covington and Fulton Mackay take the leading roles in Cambridge Theatre Company's production of Shaw's *St Joan*; directed by Nancy Meckler, it opens on Tuesday at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge.

Martin Huckerby

The Who
Rainbow
Richard Williams

There are two versions of The Who. The first and more popular is the brash machine which triumphed in an orgy of wrecking at Monterey and which has pumped out *Tommy* all these years; this Who is personified by Roger Daltrey's self-assurance. The second, and more interesting, speaks with a quieter voice, for it articulates Pete Townshend's private vision, and is riddled with doubt. Its tone is his, bruised and romantic; this Who began with "The Kids Are All Right", and was heard in most of the remarkable and under-regarded *By Numbers* album of 1975.

There were signs during Tuesday's concert that Townshend hopes to bridge the gap between these contrasting incarnations. It was noticeable, for instance, that he took a more prominent role than usual, assigning himself a heavier vocal burden. The volatility of the group's character and the persistence of Townshend's own demons, which drove him to demolish several of the later songs (notably "Long Live Rock" and "Pinball Wizard") with gratuitous monologues and meaningless guitar interludes, will probably keep this dream eternally unfulfilled.

If the concert developed unsatisfactorily, it began solidly enough with pleasingly truculent versions of "Substitute" and "I Can't Explain" (although the extended choruses on the latter were a puzzling intrusion) and a shriekingly loud "Baba O'Riley".

Several songs from their forthcoming album were performed, among the most immediately notable being "Don't Let Go of that Coat", built on loose, bluesy cadences which suggested that Townshend has been listening to Bruce Springsteen, and "Just Another Tricky Day", which made the best possible use of the attractive blend achieved in Daltrey's and Townshend's vocal harmonies.

A thunderous "Won't Get Fooled Again", decorated with pin-striped fans of green laser light, and various extracts from *Quadrophenia* were also worthwhile, but "Sister Disco" and "Music Must Change" were overly bombastic, and they should consider giving "Behind Blue Eyes" a rest from its role as their token concert ballad (in favour of "They Are All in Love", perhaps). Elsewhere, the preponderance of extended codas, slackly improvised at Townshend's behest, spoiled the flow.

Book review

Winchester
By Barbara Carpenter Turner

(Paul Cave Publications Ltd, £9.50)

Anyone who supposes that inner city decay is peculiar to our times should take a look at late medieval Winchester. Here was a once-royal capital still enjoying royal favours, a powerful bishopric with a magnificent cathedral, gem-like churches within, without and even on its town walls, and a thriving cloth manufacture.

Then in the 14th century, with trade already hit by the expulsion of the Jews, there came the Black Death and the Hundred Years' War. The wool staple decayed, well-to-do inhabitants pushed off. Fifteenth-century Winchester was insolvent, its streets falling down and churches in ruins.

How this impoverishment came about, and later misfortunes during the Reformation and Civil Wars, forms only part of Barbara Carpenter Turner's scholarly history. Surprisingly, this is the first full modern account of our one-time capital, and the author, a professional historian who has been twice Mayor of Winchester, is steeped in its archives. Every page demonstrates her skilled research, in a work well annotated, amply illustrated and attractively produced.

Filled with valuable information, indeed, though the overall effect is a bit on the dry side, not filled out into a living picture of what seems to have been a pretty turbulent history. The really colourful people and splendid occasions, like the great "building" bishop, William of Wykeham, or the marriage of Mary Tudor and Philip of Spain, hardly stand out from the minutiae.

Detailed maps would have clarified the city's appearance at different periods; and the break-down of the index into sections, first-rate in theory, in practice makes it quite hard to use. (It took me several goes to locate "Soke".)

Such fruit of prolonged research by so sound a scholar is still a matter for gratitude, making us want to pace the streets of Winchester with the new knowledge accorded us by this comprehensive work.

Mary Cosh

Say Your Prayers
Riverside Studios
Ned Chaillet

A croaking, singing frog is one of the leading characters in Nick Darke's play for the Joint Stock company. The apostle Paul is another. Paul and the frog share a pond in a prison yard with a few pagans and Paul's secretary. They take part in an admirable bit of storytelling, fantastically conceived and disarmingly played. In addition, Mr Darke throws two modern churchmen into contrast: an ineffectual English vicar bemoaning the decline of faith and a boisterous American evangelist linked to 50 million followers by television.

Mr Darke's dramaturgical skills are evident and the easy manner in which he links each thread in his play is encouraging. It is possible to imagine a major play from him on the basis of *Say Your Prayers*, but for all the intelligent comedy of the writing his play seems simultaneously over-ambitious and simplistic.

After the frog introduces a pair of coupling slaves to the audience, Paul is introduced with ideological designs on the male slave, a promising orator he hopes to use in the service of Christ. Paul's epistles intrude, and there is a nice comic moment when he loses track of where each of his correspondents is located, while the American evangelist amplifies Paul's message into a political ideology. The lesson of Mr Darke's play is that the Christian message has been corrupted from the beginning.

Joint Stock, in its present incarnation under the direction of Richard Wilson, displays a real sympathy for the finer theatrical touches of the writing. With the musical direction of Andrew Dickson to guide them, the actors provide seductive gospel music while Paul converts the slave, Oneisimus. The musical skills of the company are well integrated elsewhere in the ensemble acting and they give the production much of its entertainment value.

Perhaps Mr Darke's symbolism is simply too blatant, for the main opposition to Philip Donaghy's Paul is an artist imprisoned for painting. Her vaguely feminist doctrine has roots in *The Golden Bough*, but her critique is ephemeral; Mr Darke is bold in his theatrical pictures, but frail in his arguments. Irving Wardle put his finger on it in another context when he said we were constant "suckers for the pastoral fallacy", and that is the play's great weakness.

Photograph by Donald Cooper

Shona Morris (left), Judy Elrington, Richard Howard

Nosferatu
Stratford East
John Percival

When you have a company of only six dancers, to lose one through injury must be alarming. The ambitiously named English Dance Theatre, on a rare foray to London from their Darlington base, did not let that hamper their presentation of *Nosferatu* at Stratford by Bow last night, although valiant adaptations were apparent.

The character of Mina disappeared from the plot, but a vampire hunter was added to make up for that; not Dr van Helsing, who would presumably have needed too elaborate a costume. For good measure, the company even threw in, as curtain-raiser, a treatment by Ross McKim of *The Rite of Spring* (well, half of it) for three dancers, in which Vivienne Rochester made a powerful impression as the chosen victim.

I am not sure how far the changes in the Dracula ballet may have altered the balance between the two acts, but from the choice of music it seems that there must always be a contrast between the mainly serious first part, danced to Poulenc's Organ Concerto, which proves surprisingly apt, and the largely flippant second part, accompanied by extracts from *Peer Gynt* and *Carmina Burana*, with a snatch of Strauss's *Zarathustra* added for the new scenes.

Actually, the mixture, however disconcerting, proves rather entertaining. Ross McKim is able to switch from self-disgust to courtly charm as the undead hero, and his menaces are as convincing as his comic moments. At the moment of death, you almost expect to see his clenched hand, raised in the spotlight, change into fleshless bones, just as in the movies.

It seemed odd to have his attendant spirits at one point enticing honest Jonathan with crosses, but Sue Little makes a notably pale and interesting Lucy, who becomes a lot less bloodless when Nosferatu starts to court her in a wittily impassioned duet. She and McKim are joint choreographers of the ballet, but I suspect that each took charge of certain scenes rather than trying to do everything between them. Their different temperaments seem to make a good match.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

Picasso graphics to go on tour

Picasso Graphics, an exhibition of about 120 original prints, will go on show at the French Institute in South Kensington from February 17 until April 1 before being toured by the Arts Council to Jarrow, Milton Keynes, Rochdale, Wolverhampton and Bristol.

An exhibition of work by students at art colleges throughout Britain, *New Contemporaries*, will take place in all three galleries at the Institute of Contemporary Arts from February 21 to March 8.

Stretching the Limits
ATV
Miles Kington

On October 31 last year Julian Nott went up to 56,000 feet in, or just underneath, a hot air balloon, thus breaking the previous record by 3,000 feet. The trip took two or three hours, but, as someone said in last night's riveting film, that is the easy bit; it is the previous nine months' preparation that counts. Nott and his team had to build a balloon as big as St Paul's, design a pressure-sealed dome, find fuel that would burn at −100°F and, above all, get backing. Which explains why the red panels of the balloon bore the name of a German beer and the white panels proclaimed the identity of the fabric-makers, ICI, thus publicizing their name throughout the world except in France, where fifty million Frenchmen would see only a balloon with "HERE" written on it.

The film took us through all the preliminary stages and quite right too, because, if balloons are wonderfully photogenic, then balloon chat turned out to be compulsively listenable. Visually the best part of the film was not the ascent (gripping though that was) so much as the preceding Balloon Fiesta at Albuquerque, where the air was full of country music, the roar of hot-air burners and the graceful ballet of over 300 balloons. And it was here that we saw something rare in television, the director as star. Leo Dickinson was to ascend with Nott, filming, and bale out at 25,000 feet to set a new civilian parachuting altitude record.

Owing to heavy cloud Dickinson had to jump early, unfortunately, but the rest of the ascent went as planned. I had always imagined that ballooning was deathly quiet but the air was filled with the laconic bar-room drawl of the radio contact on the ground and the roar of the burners. Until 53,000 feet, that is, when the burners went out. But the momentum (over 20 mph by now) took Nott safely up to 56 000 feet and a new world record for Britain. So far, though, the Paris-based International Aeronautic Federation has refused to recognize the record on the flimsy grounds that Dickinson's ejection breaks the rules. Allons, messieurs—ce n'est pas cricket! Nott is now planning a round-the-world trip in a balloon twice the size. I would seriously advise him this time to get a French beer to back him.

SPORT

Cricket

England let their chance slip away

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
St Vincent, Feb 4

England missed a golden chance here today of winning the first of the two one-day internationals of their tour. Having done very well to bowl West Indies out for 127, albeit on a pitch of uneven bounce and considerable turn, they were dismissed, amid high excitement, for 125, Old failing to the second ball of the penultimate over.

After a start to England's innings in which, to use the Vincentian phrase, wickets "fell like rain"—in the eighth over the score was 15 for four—Botham and Gower added 65. Botham stayed on, playing for the most part most responsibly, and so long as he was there an English victory was well on the cards. He fell, however, at 114 the third last of Croft's six victims, and although Emburey and Stevenson picked up the odd single, Old in the end was left holding the fort—and there is no fast bowler in the world, let alone Holding, who sees Old's defences against speed as anything but flimsy.

So West Indies got away with some rather poor batting and England's shortage of practice, as well as expertise, against fast bowling, found them out. Without the incomparable Richards to show them the way, West Indies were indebted to Mattis, their new young Jamaican, and Haynes for making even as many as they did. Coming in at No 3, in Richard's place, Mattis gave a clear hint of greatness.

He remained one more of Greg Chappell in his style than any of the present West Indians. Mattis made 62 and Haynes 34; after that came Gomes with eight. England fielded like tigers and bowled admirably.

The pitch being damp after more torrential overnight rain, Botham opted to field. To offset the disadvantage of batting last, possibly in fading light, there was the chance of early moisture to help the bowlers. In the event it was wear that made the pitch treacherous; it was the same one as was used against Windward Islands on Sunday and Monday.

With the day having been declared a public holiday, the whole island seemed to have come to the match: those without tickets simply climbed in, with the Grenadines in the distance across a bejewelled sea, and not a space to spare even on the boundary walls, it was a marvellously colourful scene.

Apart from Haynes, who played a glorious little innings, and Mattis, who made a most auspicious start, the West Indians were always struggling for runs. Having lost Bacchus in the fifth over, caught at mid-on mishooking, Haynes made 32 of the next 43 runs in nine overs, hooking and driving Botham and Old as

Botham: while he was there victory was possible.

powerfully as he drove the off spin of Emburey. Even on this pitch the initiative might have been lost for the day had Emburey at square leg not held a good two-handed catch, running to his right, to get rid of Haynes.

Stevenson's first six overs, costing only nine runs and bringing the wickets of Haynes and Lloyd, were a splendid contribution. As Stevenson showed once or twice in Australia last winter, he is a particularly useful one-day cricketer. By the time Lloyd was well caught low down at backward point off a firm backfoot force, Kallicharran had been bowled by Emburey, whom he was trying to work through the leg side.

Mattis, meanwhile, was digging himself in with great determination and mature skill for someone with no previous experience at this level. He is tall with an unusually long neck and a pointed beard; his composure was striking, his technique sound. Like an old hand he scotched the spin of Willey and Emburey on the forward stroke and picked the right ball to hit.

At lunch Mattis was 49 and West Indies 110 for seven after 41 overs. Gomes had been bamboozled by Willey and Gooch had chipped in with the wickets of Murray, who played on, and Roberts, smartly stumped taking an enormous swing. In six overs afterwards Holding was bowled by Botham and Garner and Mattis were both run out. Mattis, last to go, backed himself to beat Boycott's throw from long leg and lost despite a headlong dive. In 42 overs it was the first time Mattis had appeared to be doing anything in a hurry.

Almost straightaway England's innings was foundering. After one over from the sea end by Holding, Croft replaced him and in his second over had Boycott caught at second slip and Willey at the wicket.

A hook for four off Roberts raised hopes of something better from Gooch before he too was caught at slip, driving at a wide one. When Butcher was caught at the wicket in the eighth over England were fifteen for four.

In theory they had plenty of batting still to come with Stevenson at number ten and Old at eleven (Dilley, suffering from a stomach complaint, had been left out of the England twelve) but it was another matter knowing where the runs were going to come from.

The recovery when it came, was in the shape of a fifth wicket partnership of 65 between Botham and Gower. It was made less difficult by the absence of a West Indian spinner worthy of the name. Formidable as they were, the four fast men suffered from the lack of pace in the pitch. What spin there was had to be left to Kallicharran, purveying gentle off breaks to six men on the legside, all in defensive positions. In making room to try and hit Kallicharran through the covers Botham, when he was 22, should have been stumped.

But the score had reached 80 by the time the next wicket fell, Gower driving Kallicharran hard and low to extra cover where Haynes held a rolling catch. Between wickets he and Botham had been slowed down by a knock on Botham's foot, but with so few to get there was no hurry. If survival could be achieved England would almost certainly win. At tea they were 83 for five, the captain, who was 40 not out, having batted for 28 overs and played a captain's innings.

With Botham and Gower parted it was always going to be a perilously close thing. At 88 Gatting was bowled by a beauty from Croft; Bairstow, revelling in the fight, helped Botham add a valuable 23 before another devilish ball from Croft removed him. When, at 114, Botham was caught at the wicket—Croft again—14 from the last three batsmen seemed likely to be too many. And so it was.

At 123 Holding bowled Emburey and although one felt that Stevenson could yet hove won it for England had he kept the strike, he allowed Old to have it. As Holding bowled Old it was as though Soufriere, the island's smouldering volcano, had erupted again. Beneath the somersaulting hordes the ground was lost to sight.

WEST INDIES

D. L. Haynes, c Emburey, b Stevenson .. 34
S. F. A. Bacchus, c Stevenson, b Old .. 1
E. H. Mattis, run out .. 62
A. I. Kallicharran, b Emburey .. 2
*C. H. Lloyd, c Willey, b Stevenson .. 2
H. A. Gomes, b Willey .. 8
†D. A. Murray, b Gooch .. 1
A. M. E. Roberts, st Bairstow, b Gooch .. 2
J. Garner, run out .. 4
M. A. Holding, b Botham .. 1
C. E. H. Croft, not out .. 2
Extras (l-b 4, w 1, n-b 3) .. 8
Total (47.2 overs) .. 127

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—5, 2—48, 3—51, 4—58, 5—89, 6—90, 7—102, 8—110, 9—120, 10—127.

BOWLING: Old, 5—4—8—1; Botham, 8—1—32—1; Stevenson, 8.2—2—18—2; Emburey, 10—4—20—1; Willey, 10—1—29—1; Gooch, 6—1—12—2.

ENGLAND

G. Boycott, c Mattis, b Croft .. 2
G. A. Gooch, c Lloyd, b Roberts .. 11
P. Willey, c Murray, b Croft .. 0
D. I. Gower, c Haynes, b Kallichrran .. 25
R. O. Butcher, c Murray, b Croft .. 1
*I. T. Botham, c Murray, b Croft .. 60
M. W. Gatting, b Croft .. 3
†D. L. Bairstow, b Croft .. 6
J. E. Emburey, b Holding .. 5
G. B. Stevenson, not out .. 6
C. M. Old, b Holding .. 1
Extras .. 7
Total (48.5 overs) .. 125

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—14, 2—14, 3—14, 4—15, 5—80, 6—88, 7—111, 8—114, 9—123, 10—125.

BOWLING: Roberts 10—1—30—1; Holding 9.2—2—30—2; Croft 9—4—15—6; Garner 10—2—17—0; Kallicharran 10—3—25—1.

Umpires: D. Archer and S. Mohammad.

Chappell 'will not tour'

Sydney, Feb 4.—Greg Chappell, the Australian cricket captain, will not tour England this year, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reports. Business pressures and family commitments are said to have influenced his decision.

Phil Ridings, Australia's chairman of selectors, said that he had not been told of Chappell's plans, but added: "I would expect him to discuss them with me in the next few days." Chappell himself was not immediately available for comment.

The report said the uproar surrounding Chappell's instruction to bowl underarm the last ball of the match against New Zealand in Melbourne on Sunday had not influenced the decision, but it could well have strengthened his resolve.

Chappell would earn about £6,000 for the four-month tour of England, but this is small change for Chappell who has big and varied business interests in Queensland, the report added.

Meanwhile New Zealand's captain, Geoff Howarth, will slip home quietly tomorrow knowing that almost 30,000 Australians, who saw his team lose the World Series Cup final here last night, are on his side.

Howarth is not a flamboyant leader. He made no capital out of the controversy in the match in Melbourne, but made many new friends. Under his professional approach, New Zealand regained the prestige they had almost lost after flopping 2—0 in the three Tests. They came back in the triangular 50-over matches

Rain forces early finish

Ballarat, Victoria, Feb 4.—Rain forced an early end to the two-day match between the Indian tourists and a Victoria Country XI today. There was no play after tea on the second day, but the Indians had done all their batting yesterday and were delighted with their 363 for five declared.

The Indian team manager, Wing Commander Durrani, said he was pleased with the match here as practice for the third Test against Australia which begins in Melbourne this weekend.

Azad, aged 22, underlined his claim to what could be his first Test appearance by taking a wicket today, having Button caught when the batsmen was making smooth progress. Azad also won the award as India's best player in the match. However, Wing Commander Durrani would not be drawn into forecasting any changes in the Indian Test side.

The Country XI made 193 for four in reply to India's total and their best batsman was Brady, who made 51 not out. In a lively 10 overs, Kapil Dev's two wickets cost 17 runs and allayed any fears about his right knee, which was bruised in a fall in the first-class match against Victoria in Geelong last Friday.

SCORES: Indians 363 for 5 dec (K. Azad 103, S. M. Patil 63, Kapil Dev 60, T. E. Srinivasan 59); Victoria Country XI 193 for 4 (P. Brady 51 not out).—Agencies.

NEW DELHI: England Women, 186 for 5 and 80 for 5; Indian President's XI, 133 for 6 and 135 for 2. President's XI won by 8 wickets.

SRI LANKA: Club Cricket Conference 202 for 8 (E. Gobin 47 not out); Singolese CC 161. CCC won by 41 runs.

Counties to get lit up on football grounds

Floodlit county cricket on football grounds will be instigated this September, with W. D. and H. O. Wills putting up £50,000 in sponsorship money. All 17 first-class counties will take part in the two-day competition, to be known as the Lambert and Butler Cup, with the winners receiving £2,500 and a trophy. The runners-up will receive £1,500, the two losing semi-finalists £1,000, the four losing second-round teams £500 and the nine losing first-round sides £250 each.

It will be a seven-a-side knock-out competition, with the preliminary round on September 17 and the semi-final rounds and finals on the following night. Each innings will be a maximum of 10 overs.

The counties will be divided into four zones. Lancashire, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire make up the northern section, which will play on Manchester United's ground at Old Trafford. Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire form the Midlands sections at the Hawthorns, West Bromwich. Hampshire, Somerset, Glamorgan and Gloucestershire will be the South West section at Ashton Gate, Bristol. Essex, Middlesex, Surrey, Kent and Sussex represent the Home Counties at Selhurst Park, Crystal Palace.

Three matches—four at Selhurst Park where five teams participate—will be played at each ground. The winners of the zones travel to Stamford Bridge, Chelsea, where the semi-final and the final take place on the Friday.

Confirmation that the last two rounds will be staged at Stamford Bridge came as a relief to Chelsea, who were shocked by a report that the final would be at Old Trafford. Peter Lush, the Test and County Cricket Board's negotiator immediately contacted the second division club to assure them that they, as planned, would accommodate the final.

The TCCB and the sponsors have negotiated a one-year contract with an option. Mr Lush is confident that the tournament will be sufficiently successful for that option to be taken up.

"We were very encouraged by the interest generated by floodlight cricket last season" he said. "This new competition will enable it to be played in large-population areas, well spread geographically, and it promises to provide an exciting finale to the 1981 season.

The players are to make every effort to complete the games, playing on in drizzle if necessary. There is no provision to continue for more than the scheduled two days should there be any rain. If that is the case the toss of a coin will decide the issue.

The Australian television magnate Kerry Packer initiated cricket's first floodlit competition in 1977 when his World Series Cricket organization took the world's best players and threw the traditional game into turmoil.

Surrey followed Mr Packer's lead by organizing an Essex-West Indies match at Stamford Bridge last August and the idea of a competition involving counties gained momentum.

The games will be played on a "Sherwood" pitch, as used for last year's floodlit matches. The synthetic grass carpet cover, which is manufactured in Nottinghamshire, is pegged over a flexible base to make a "true easy-paced pitch." This type of surface is needed on a football pitch which is soft, heavily watered and sand-based.

Ice skating

Miss Torvill and Dean: putting all challengers to flight.

British pair take giant stride towards the top

From John Hennessy
Innsbruck, Feb 4

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, holders of the British ice dance title, made a dazzling start to the European championships here today. After the first two compulsory dances they have swept the board, placed first by all nine judges. There is a long way to go yet, with another compulsory dance and the original set pattern dance tomorrow, followed by the free skating on Friday night, but they could hardly have opened their attack more promisingly.

The judges were not totally convinced of their superiority on the first dance, the Westminster Waltz, and they were given first place on a majority. But they put all challengers to flight on the second, the *Paso Doble*, and won over any doubters.

The second British couple, Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, lie fifth, thus providing a British sandwich for the three Russian entries. Second place is held by Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov, former world champions, and third by Natalia Linichuk and Gennadi Karponosov, the reigning European and Olympic champions.

Miss Torvill and Dean, from Nottingham, now training full-time after sacrificing their separate careers, have made giant strides since last year in technique, in poise and in the expression of ice dance. Not surprisingly their trainer, Betty Callaway, with determined understatement, said she was "quite thrilled".

British camp followers, here in vociferous numbers, feel confident that the same positions will hold tomorrow evening, principally because of the British champions' stunning original set pattern to the cha-cha rhythm.

The men's short programme this afternoon took an unexpectedly heavy toll. Neither of the two favourites, Igor Bobrin (Soviet Union) or Jean-Christophe Simond (France), could stand up to the pressure and were overtaken by Hermann Schulz of East Germany.

It was an occasion of missed opportunity from which four skaters emerged with a realistic chance of the title under the new scoring system. Only a point separates Schulz, second in yesterday's short, from Jozef Sabovcik (Czechoslovakia), now in fourth place, so that a victory in tomorrow night's free skating for any one of the four—Schulz, Bobrin, Simond or Sabovcik—would give him the title.

Of the two humble British entries, Mark Pepperday (Nottingham) was the better and his marks, ranging from 4.7 to 4.9, would have been higher had he not been doomed to an early start by his poor figures. He was eleventh in the short and so moves up from 19th place to 16th, one behind Christopher Howarth (Richmond). Howarth was another who ducked the triple toe loop in Combination.

The upheavals and the errors continued in the evening when the Soviet Unio retained the pairs title, through Irina Vorobieva and Igor Lisovski. But their national champions, Veronica Pershina and Marat Akbarov, piling mistake on demoralizing mistake, declined to fifth among the six entries, and their world champions, Marina Cherkasova and Sergei Shakhral, could place no better than third behind the West German pair, Christina Riegel and Andreas Nischwitz.

It was a sub-standard exhibition of pairs skating that made one regret the more the disappearanc of Irina Rodnina and Alexander Zaitsev, who dominated the event solong, and the absence of injured East German skatern.

The most consistent of all the pairs was the youg Britons, Susan Garland and Robert Daw, aged 14 and 16 respectively. Here again their marks made a significant advance and now, far from looking out of their depth because of their youth they surpassed many of their competitors in the eyes of many spectators.

MEN'S SHORT PROGRAMME: 1. N. Schramm (WG), 0.4pts, 19 placements; 2. *H. Schulz (EG), 0.8—18; 3. J. Sabovcik (Czechoslovakia), 1.2—30; 11. M. Pepperday (GB), 4.4—96; 13. C. Howarth (GB), 5.2—124.

MEN'S OVERALL STANDINGS (after short programme): 1. H. Schulz (EG), 2.6pts; 2. I. Bobrin (USSR), 2.8; 3. J-C. Simond (France), 3.0; 15. C. Howarth (GB), 13.8; 16. M. Pepperday (GB), 15.4.

DANCE COMPULSORY FIGURES: 1. J. Torvill and C. Dean (GB), 9 placements; 2. I. Moiseyeva and A. Minenkov (USSR), 18; 3. N. Linichuk and G. Karponosov (USSR), 21; 5. K. Barber and N. Slater (GB) 47; 9. W. Sessions and S. Williams (GB), 80.

PAIRS: Final standings: 1. I. Vorobieva and I. Lisovski (USSR) 1.4 points; 2. C. Riegel and Nischwitz (WG) 3.2; 3. M. Cherkasova and S. Shakhral (USSR) 3.8; 6. S. Garland and R. Daw (GB) 8.4.

Boxing

Exit Ali: enter the greatest promoter

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The Greatest has retired—at the fifth time of saying so. "I am all through. I am too old to be boxing. I do not have to box", Muhammad Ali told reporters in New York yesterday. And so ended the "to box or not to box" controversy that has raged ever since he announced last year he was going to meet Britain's John L. Gardner on his way back to winning the world title for the fourth time, as if three times was not enough.

But the 39-year-old Ali is not going to give up the game that has made him more famous than all the United States presidents that came and went during his 59-bout career that spanned 17 years. He is to start a promotion company, though I think he would be more of an impresario than a promoter. "My role is to become the greatest promoter in all boxing. I am going to take over boxing. I will sign the cheques. I will pay the fighters."

Ali is not going to use his money to save the multi-million dollar Madison Square Garden programme, whose promoters, Muhammad Ali Professional Sports (MAPS), are being sought by the FBI for a £9 million fraud. Harold Smith, the head of MAPS, who has been spirited away, had promised to pay the eight boxers at the Garden a total of 8 million dollars.

"Smith's purses were unrealistic. He started paying outrageous fees", said the man who had made more in one night that any other sportsman in the world, and started others on the gold brick road.

Ali's retirement will come as a relief to his business associates who were not always able to control his every whim, and millions of well wishers throughout the world who were concerned for his health especially after his dismal performance against Holmes at Las Vegas. Ali put it down to thyroid drugs; others said that he was "shot to pieces" with kidney and brain damage. Even his own doctor, Dr Ferie Pachecho, would have nothing to do with his exploits in the later stages.

We may not, however, have seen the best of the greatest sporting personality of all time, the man who tore up the text book and rewrote it, the man who started as Clay the clown, and ended up as Ali, the ring master. Who knows what he will dream up in his new role. He can also still give pleasure to millions of admirers through public appearances though I hope with a new line in patter. He might even get his wish to travel the world knocking together the heads of heads of state.

Title challenge: Cornelius Boza-Edwards, the 24-year-old Ugandan-born lightweight boxer, has been nominated as official challenger to the European super-featherweight champion, Carlos Hernandez, of Spain. Contracts must be signed by April 3.

Chance for Avelar

Mexico City, Feb 4.—Shoji Oguma, of Japan, who yesterday retained his world boxing council flyweight title for the third time by outpointing South Korea's Park Chan Hee over 15 rounds in Tokyo, has been given 30 days to sign a contract to defend his title against the official challenger, Antonio Avelar, of Mexico. A Mexican promoter was understood to have offered Oguma $110,000 and Avelar $50,000.—Agence France-Presse.

Hockey

Atkinson scores twice to show Cambridge how

By Sydney Friskin

Cambridge Univ 4 Royal Navy 2

Cambridge University played a fast and well-balanced game of hockey while beating the Royal Navy in their annual match at Fenner's yesterday. In doing so they might well have picked their side for the match against Oxford at Lord's on February 24.

The Navy could not muster the force they are likely to raise for the defence of their Services title next month. Four regulars were missing and vacancies were filled by the inexperienced, for whom the practice of stick obstruction proved a costly venture. Several short corners were conceded.

Still, the Navy did well to cut the lead from 3—0 to 3—2, emulating the pattern set earlier by Cambridge of running fast down the right wing and hitting across to a more favourably placed colleague. Atkinson, who scored two goals for Cambridge, showed the way.

Richard Dodds continues to guide the fortunes of Cambridge from the rear ranks and after the Navy had missed an early chance, he put his team ahead in the ninth minute by converting a short corner. Four minutes later he sent Merttens through on the left and King in the Navy goal was summoned to make the first of many fine saves.

A combined assault in the nineteenth minute from Cambridge brought them their second goal, Atkinson scoring with a strong angular shot. Five minutes later he was in the middle of a scramble to score from the rebound after King had saved well from Dodds, the Navy defence having failed to clear.

A more positive approach by the Navy brought them two well-earned goals early in the second half, May converting a penalty stroke and Martin a short corner. But midway in this period Cambridge made their position more secure when Dodds converted a short corner via a defender's stick. In the end, however, the Navy should have had another goal, May spurning a gift by putting the ball over the top.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: *P. W. Long (Perse and St Catharine's); *R. D. A. Dodds (Kingston GS and St Catharine's, capt), N. J. Reeves (Windsor GS and Fitzwilliam), A. C. Locke (Burnham GS and St Catharine's), R. Mitchell (Felsted and St John's), *A. N. Diamond (Kingston GS and St Catharine's), *D. J. Mansfield (Bishop's Stortford and Pembroke), *C. Cowan (Bishop's Stortford and St Catharine's), *D. C. M. Atkinson (Millfield and Downing), T. J. Walker (Stewart and Melville College, Edinburgh, and Pembroke), *R. W. Merttons (Uppingham and St Catharine's).

ROYAL NAVY: Lt N. King; CPO R. McDermott, Sub-Lt R. James, CPO D. Smith, Capt R. Martin (capt), Lt I. Tibbitt, PO P. Perkins, Sub-Lt A. Gregory, LWEM T. Solnka, CPO J. May, AEM R. Payton.

Umpires: J. Patel (Combined Services), F. Lockhart (Eastern Counties).
* A Blue.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University 2, RAF 0.

Today's fixture

HOCKEY: Women's territorial match: East v South (at Ipswich, 2.0).

Football

The £1m player moves a little nearer extinction

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Footballers valued by their clubs at about £1m do not now appear to be attracting bidders, which indicates that the market is being brought to its senses and that the threat of rule changes concerning the methods of payment is being taken seriously.

Yesterday, Ken Brown, the Norwich City manager, confirmed that he had been approached by yet another club interested in the England B international forward, Justin Fashanu, but that no offer had been made. The inquiry came from Terry Venables, Queen's Park Rangers manager, who has been in charge of the England under-21 team when Fashanu has appeared.

Mr Venables may have to find a replacement for the transfer-listed forward, Langley, who played exceptionally well on Tuesday when Rangers beat Cardiff City 2—0 to move into the area of promotion candidates. That important game was watched by a crowd of under 10,000 and obviously Rangers would need to offer Norwich players in part exchange if they were seriously intending to buy Fashanu.

Several clubs have made approaches for Fashanu, including Nottinigham Forest and Manchester City. As Mr Brown remained at home when the Norwich team went for a mid-season break in Spain it was assumed that a transfer was being negotiated. However, last night Mr Brown said: "A lot of people like him, but none seem to take their interest much further". Bond, the full-back son of the Manchester City manager, is also availabe but no firm bids have been forthcoming.

Leeds United have gone no further with their interest in Allen, of Crystal Palace, who was valued at £1m but is unlikely to fetch such a sum again. Martin Wilkinson, the Leeds assistant manager, said: "We had him watched at Middlesbrough on Saturday but the report was not very good." Leeds will watch him again but they deny that Palace had asked them for £750,000 and two players, Stevenson and Parlane.

Manchester City hope to conclude transfer discussions with Seattle Sounders over Daley, who cost them £1.45m when bought from Wolverhampton Wanderers. Mr Bond said yesterday that he had asked Alan Hinton, the Seattle manager, to visit England next week to settle the deal but warned him that if negotiations went on for much longer the agreement could falter.

Manchester City's immediate concern is their game against Nottingham Forest on Saturday and next week's League Cup semi-final against Liverpool. Ranson, who has missed two matches with a hamstring injury, and Booth, bothered by a sore calf muscle, are almost ready to return but Mr Bond said he did not want to rush them for Saturday's game at the expense of Tuesday's.

Hay, a Bristol City defender, has been ruled out of the FA Cup fifth round tie at the City Ground by a two-match suspension. He was banned for two games for reaching 20 disciplinary points and he misses Saturday's home game against Sheffield Wednesday.

Forest fall to Red Star

Nottingham Forest, the current European champions, were given a lesson in the art of finishing by Red Star Belgrade in their 3—1 friendly defeat at the City Ground. The Yugoslavs, due to play Inter Milan in the quarter final round of the European Cup, established themselves as one of the favourites with a clinical display.

Repcic scored two superb goals in the 24th and 42nd minutes to give Red Star a healthy lead at half-time. Forest pushed men forward in the second half but paid the penalty on the hour when Sestic scored Red Star's third.

Forest's consolation goal came in the 76th minute when Francis exchanged passes with Ward before shooting low into the net.

The Scunthorpe United goalkeeper Neenan saved his side from a heavier defeat in the night's only league fixture, the fourth division game at Torquay, who won 2—1. Neenan kept out shots from Jones and Pethard before Lawrence gave the home team the lead in the 26th minute after Cooper had nodded back a cross by Fell.

Yesterday's results

Fourth division

Torquay (2) 2 Scunthorpe (0) 1
Lawrence Green
Cooper 1,760

OTHER MATCH: Nottingham Forest 1, Red Star Belgrade 3.

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Maidstone United 1, Gravesend and Northfleet 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE, Midland division: Alvechurch 1, Banbury United 0.

FA TROPHY: Second round replay: Weymouth 3, Leytonstone and Ilford 4; Carshalton Athletic 2, Bootle 1.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Israel 1, Austria 0.

IRISH CUP: First round replay: Cliftonville 2, Chimney Corner 1.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI 5, FA XI 1.

FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round: Birmingham City 1, Orient 1; West Ham United 6, Cardiff City 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Brentwood 1, Marshalls Park 3; Christ's Hospital 1, Alleyn's, Dulwich 3; City of London 2, KCS, Wimbledon 4; Douai 2, Bearwood 3; Reading 1, Godalming 2; Redruth 0, Falmouth 4.

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Abertillery 7, Tredegar 18; Bridgend 30, Penarth 12; Plymouth Albion 22, The Army 4; Pontypridd 10, Cross Keys 0. Other match: University of London 3, British Polytechnics 21.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Austin Friars 17, Cockermouth GS 6; Bishop Reindorf 0, Godalming 24; King Edward VI, Nuneaton 12, King Edward's, Camp Hill 11; Maidstone GS 14, Rochester Math 16; Price's 10, Redrice 1?.

Skiing

Muller may defy doctor to defend his title

Schladming, Feb 4.—Peter Müller the Swiss World Cup skier, is ready to defy doctor's orders and take part in Saturday's downhill here. The 23-year-old downhill Cup holder dislocated his right shoulder and was badly bruised when he crashed at top speed at Wengen on January 24.

Müller was rushed to hospital and was told by doctors that he would be risking further injury if he skied within six months. Originally, Müller had planned to make a comeback in the last downhill of the season at Aspen, Colorado on March 6, but by his own calculations, he could still retain his title if he also won the penultimate race here on Saturday. Müller is currently third, 10 points behind Steve Podborski, of Canada, and Harti Weirather, of Austria.

The Swiss team manager has given Müller the authority to train in order to assess his condition, but it has been made clear that the final decision is up to the skier himself. If Müller takes part on Saturday, he will sign a form releasing the Swiss management and doctors from all responsibility.

A heavy snowfall forced the postponement of a women's World Cup giant slalom at Zwiesel in West Germany. Maribor in Yugoslavia may stage the event instead of Zwiesel if continued snow makes a rerun impossible organizers said.—Agencies.

Table tennis

Masters who seek the riches of the Orient

By Richard Streeton

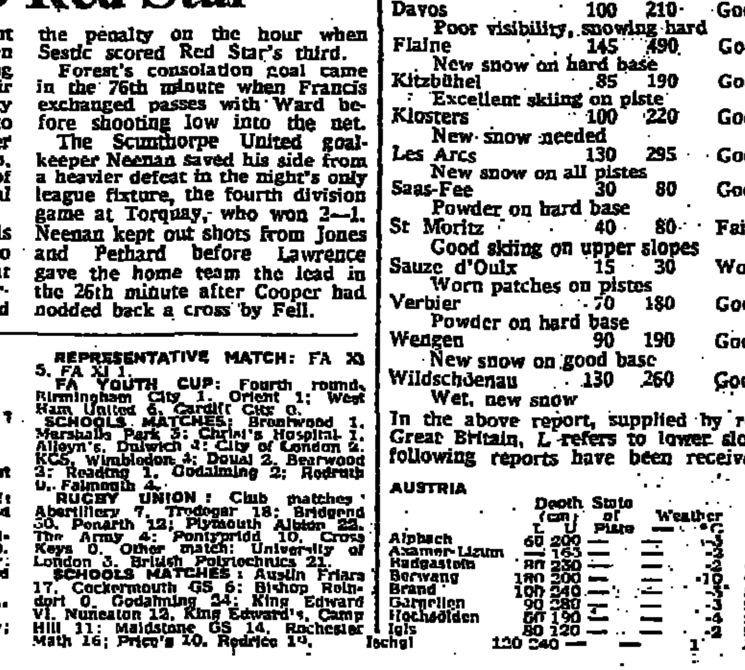
The most lucrative cash prizes in table tennis history will be contested when the Norwich Union Masters tournament takes place in Hongkong next June. The winner earns £4,000, the runner-up £2,000 and total prize money for the event, between June 10-14, has been doubled to £11,700 compared with the first two Masters in Preston last year and Milton Keynes in 1979. The 16 finalists will have already won cash prizes from the eight qualifying grand prix events this season.

If these details confirm the spiralling rewards available these days to the best players, the sponsor's decision to move the concluding stages of such a European-dominated competition to the Far East is even more revealing. Several factors had a part, including poor attendances in England and the company's business growth in Asia. The main reason, though, is that the British television channels were not interested in screening the Masters this year. The Hongkong station wanted to be involved, however, and it is hoped to market the films throughout the world.

Such are the facts of life in sport and business nowadays. Certainly the English Table Tennis Association will be disappointed that the Masters is leaving Britain as they continue to try and develop the game in this country. Meanwhile English table tennis is fortunate in the support it continues to receive at all levels from Norwich Union, who next week sponsor the English closed championships at Gillingham.

In Hong Kong the Masters will take place in the magnificent Queen Elizabeth stadium, which has seats for 3,500. If the World Cup there last summer is anything to go by, the hall will be full for every session. The Masters format will remain similar to the past with the 16 qualifiers divided into four groups of four with the first two from each going forward. An innovation this time will be that the quarter-final round may be drawn afresh, to avoid the situation that arose in the recent tennis Masters in New York, when group winners were alleged to have manipulated results to help decide their next opponent.

The winner of next April's world championships in Yugoslavia and John Hilton, England's European titleholder, qualify automatically for the Hong Kong event. The other 14 finalists will not all be known until after the Czechoslovak Open championships from February 20-22. *Desmond Douglas*, in addition to Hilton, seems likely to be the only other Englishman to qualify. China's Guo Yue Hua currently heads the qualifiers' points table. All but three of the leading 17 are Europeans. The Canadian Open was the only tournament in the grand prix series held outside Europe.



Latest snow reports from Europe

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (3 pm)	°C
Crans-Montana	70	180	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
Powder on hard base							
Davos	100	210	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	1
Poor visibility, snowing hard							
Flaine	145	490	Good	Heavy	Good	Snow	-5
New snow on hard base							
Kitzbühel	85	190	Good	Varied	Fair	Cloud	-1
Excellent skiing on piste							
Klosters	100	220	Good	Crust	Good	Cloud	-6
New snow needed							
Les Arcs	130	295	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
New snow on all pistes							
Saas-Fee	30	80	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	-1
Powder on hard base							
St Moritz	40	80	Fair	Varied	Fair	Snow	-1
Good skiing on upper slopes							
Sauze d'Oulx	15	30	Worn	Varied	Worn	Cloud	1
Worn patches on pistes							
Verbier	70	180	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
Powder on hard base							
Wengen	90	190	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	0
New snow on good base							
Wildschönau	130	260	Good	Heavy	Good	Cloud	5
Wet, new snow							

In the above report, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

AUSTRIA

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Alpbach	60	200	—	—	-3
Axamer-Lizum	—	163	—	—	-3
Badgastein	80	230	—	—	-2
Berwang	180	200	—	—	-10
Brand	100	240	—	—	-3
Gargellen	90	280	—	—	-3
Hochsölden	50	190	—	—	-4
Igls	80	120	—	—	-2
Ischgl	120	240	—	—	1
Kaprun	—	300	—	—	-6
Lech	190	300	—	—	-2
Lermoos	90	190	—	—	-3
Lienz	13	80	—	—	-4
Mayrhofen	[illegible]	125	—	—	0
Mitterndorf	100	310	—	—	-2
Obergurgl	145	180	—	—	-2
Obertauern	245	275	—	—	-4
Saalbach	125	230	—	—	1
Schruns	80	210	—	—	-2
Serfaus	90	210	—	—	-3
Söll	150	220	—	—	-3
Zürs	210	350	—	—	-5

For the record

Cresta run

ST MORITZ: Inter Services Championship: Prince Philip Trophy: 1, Royal Navy, 705.11; 2, Royal Air Force, 721.13; 3, Army, 734.79. Lord Tranchard Trophy: 1, Lt A. C. Usborne (RN), 173.25; 2, LRO (T) E. Nuzum (RN), 175.16; 3, L/O C. David (RN), 175.36. Charlie Auty Speed Cup: Lt A. C. Usborne (RN), 57.04.

Athletics

MELBOURNE: International meeting: (Winners): 100 metres: A. Wells (GB), 10.4 sec. 400m: R. Mitchell (Australia), 46.31. 800m: A. Paroczai (Hungary), 1 min 47.40 sec. 1500m: R. Harris (US), 3:41.17. 5,000m: S. Austin (Australia), 13.29.2.

MELBOURNE: Javelin, men: M. Nemeth (Hungary) 82.42m. Women: 1, P. Rivers (Australia) 63.80m; 2, T. Sanderson (GB) 62.66m.

Yachting

AUCKLAND: Moth Class world championship: Overall results (dropping worst performance) after final seventh race 1, D. Iszatt (England); 2, I. Ward (Australia); 3, G. Hilton (Australia); 4, J. Prower (England); 5, J. Iszatt (England); 6, S. Allen (England); 7, J. Heinerr (Switzerland); 8, S. Müller (Switzerland).

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Islanders 8, Los Angeles Kings 1; Detroit Red Wings 5, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Montreal Canadiens 8, Colorado Rockies 2; St Louis Blues 3, Edmonton Oilers 5; Washington Capitals 3, Vancouver Canucks 3.

Billiards

CAIRO: World championships, standings after two rounds: N. Kobayashi (Japan), 1,600 points; C. Van der Smissen (Netherlands), 1,250; L. Dielis (Belgium), 1,237.

Motor racing

S African race goes ahead with last year's rules–and problems

By John Blunsden

The power struggle between FISA and FOCA continued unabated last night. It was reported from Johannesburg that 112-page compromise put forward by the teams had been rejected by FISA. It would be too optimistic, perhaps to hope that politics could be forgotten for a few days.

On Saturday the South African Grand Prix will take place at Kyalami with a depleted field of probably 20 cars, almost all of them from the ranks of the FOCA-aligned teams. The race, to be run essentially to 1980 rules (meaning that the cars will be equipped with skirts, almost certainly for the last time), will take place over 78 laps (199 miles) with the blessing of FISA on the understanding that it is classified as a free-formula event which does not qualify for the 1981 world championship. However, once the race is over, this ruling is almost certain to be challenged by FOCA, probably in the courts, thereby ensuring that the new season will have begun in the all-too-familiar atmosphere of confusion and controversy. Last night Bernie Ecclestone, the president of FOCA, said that Jean-Marie Balestre, the president of FISA, had agreed to consider it part of the 1981 world championship. But there was no announcement by FISA to that effect.

When the Kyalami circuit is opened this morning for the first of two days of official practice, Alan Jones's Saudia and Leyland-backed Williams-Ford will carry the esteemed No 1 for the first time in honour of his world championship, a title which many feel he is capable of winning again this year, whether the South African race qualifies for points or not.

Carlos Reutemann remains his driving partner for a second season, and the Brabham team, who have elected not to run their new BMW turbo-powered car in South Africa after all, are also unchanged in the cockpit with Nelson Piquet and Hector Rebaque.

However, there are many other changes at Kyalami. Andrea de Cesaris will be driving the second McLaren, MP4 alongside John Watson in place of Alain Prost, who has moved across to Renault. And Nigel Mansell gets his chance in the Lotus team, now led by Elio de Angelis after the departure of Mario Andretti to Alfa Romeo. Ken Tyrrell has made Eddie Cheever his new team leader and has negotiated for Desire Wilson to drive his second car in her own country's grand prix. Emerson Fittipaldi has stepped out of the cockpit of his family's team, promoted Keke Rosberg to become his lead driver and has brought in the Brazilian, Chico Serra, to support him.

The financially troubled Ensign team has been resuscitated and Marc Surer will drive an extensively modified N180; Jan Lammers has moved back to the ATS team. Saturday's race will also mark the return of the March team to grand prix racing, under the new management of John MacDonald, who has Derek Daly, formerly with Tyrrell, as team leader and Eliseo Salazar, from Chile, in support.

Teddy Yip's Theodore team has also been reactivated, but until their new car is ready they will make do with a greatly modified Shadow DN12 for Geoff Lees. It is possible that the Arrows team will end up with their 1980 drivers, Riccardo Patrese and Jochen Mass, but Manfred Stohr has been named as a likely replacement for one or other of them.

Notable absentees from Kyalami include the Renault (winners last year), Ferrari and Talbot Ligier teams, but after promising tests Alfa Romeo decided last weekend to rush a car out for Bruno Giacomelli to give the race a much needed extra dimension.

Golf

McNulty drives straight through the Sun

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 4

On a course described as "a golfing Loch Ness monster", Mark McNulty of South Africa, shot a 68 to take a one-stroke lead in the £55,000 Sun City Classic today. Only seven others broke par.

Nick Job, of Britain, Dave Sann, from Dallas, Texas, and Bobby Verwey, of South Africa, shared second place on 69. Bernhard Langer, of West Germany, was on 70, and Baldovino Dassu of Italy, was linked with two South Africans, Hugh Baiocchi and John Bland, on 71.

Lee Trevino, favourite to win the £9,000 first prize, settled for a par 72, as did his friend Gary Player, who designed the course. On the same mark were Ian Mosey, of Britain, John O'Leary (Ireland), Tienie Britz, Comrie du Toit, Anthony Johnstone, B. Lincoln and Briton Andrew Chandler.

Andrew Murray and Brian Sharrock, of Britain, were among seven players on 73, while some visiting players fared worse. Bob Charles, of New Zealand, had a 76 and Salinas and Delich, of the United States were on 78.

The 7,033-metre course, designed by Player for the Las Vegas-style Sun City pleasure resort in the Black homeland of Bophuthatswana, is regarded here as one of the most gruelling in the world. Player predicted before the start that a top American field would battle to break 276 and that 280 might be a winning score.

But the in-form McNulty, driving straight and putting immaculately, scorned the hazards of thick bush flanking the ragged fairways and is fancied to stay in front. Alan Henning had to withdraw from the field of 111 professionals and 39 amateurs this morning. He damaged his hand fighting off an intruder in his hotel bedroom last night.

McNulty had seven birdies but lost his chance of a bigger lead, going one over par at the ninth, 12th and 13th. Verwey, who went out in 33, claimed he could have broken 60 but missed at least 10 birdie putts. N. Job had a steady round of three birdies and 15 pars.

68: M. McNulty.
69: D. Sann (US), N. Job (GB), B. Verwey.
70: B. Langer (WG).
71: H. Baiocchi, J. Bland, B. Dassu (Italy).
72: T. Britz, C. du Toit, A. Johnstone, I. Mosey (GB), J. O'Leary (Ireland), A. Chandler (GB), L. Trevino (US), G. Player, B. Lincoln.
73: G. Harvey, J. le Grange, A. Murray (GB), N. Price, B. Sharrock (GB), S. Hobday (Zimbabwe).
75: J. Johnson (US), C. Moody (GB), G. Ralph (GB), L. Castignani, G. van Biljon, D. Watson, R. Brews, M. Redding (GB), G. Levenson.
76: J. Hawkes, D. Hayes, T. Manyama, D. Robertson (US), P. Simmons, B. Charles (NZ), J. Cockayne, S. Mogare, P. van Zyl, R. Woods (US), R. Mogoerane, I. Dougan, T. Westbrook, R. Stewart.
77: S. Sepeng, R. Jacobs, C. Knauss (WG), H. Inbos, P. Morley (GB), P. Carrigill (GB), S. Bennett.
78: V. Baker, A. Salinas (US), N. Borch (GB), D. Whitfield, J. Delich (US), J. Falconer, G. Birch (GB).

Tennis

British win singular victory over Czechs

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Britain won both singles to gain a winning 2–0 lead in the home leg of their King's Cup play-off with Czechoslovakia at the Huddersfield Sports Centre last evening. Saturday's return leg will decide who finishes fifth and sixth out of the eight teams in the first division: but as both teams are safe from relegation the captains are more interested in marking their cards in readiness for Davis Cup competition.

In this respect it should be noted that last evening Britain, at full strength, were playing against a "reserve" team. Czechoslovakia won both the King's Cup and the Davis Cup last year and would have been a different proposition at Huddersfield had Ivan Lendl and Tomas Smid been playing for them. As it was, Richard Lewis saved three match-points when serving at 5–6 in the second set and proceeded to beat Stanislav Birer 2–6, 7–6, 6–2 in two hours. Then Christopher Mottram crispl confirmed the world rankings with a neatly composed 6–2, 6–3 win over Pavel Slozil in 70 minutes.

The transformation in Lefis's match was astonishing. From the moment when he was match point down for the first time, it took him only 36 minutes to win. He won the secon dset with a run of nine consecutive points and extended that sudden show of authority to 36 points out of 49 before the statistical possibilities were exhausted by the umpire's call of "game, set, and match to Great Britain". Lewis's supremacy in the third set was even more marked than Birner's had been in the first.

Birner is a quick, fidgety chap, sometimes known as "Hotfoot". From the start, he was so much more confident, and positive in returning service, so much more tidy and flexible, so adept at taking the ball early, that Lewis was being firmly outplayed. Lewis wanted to get to the net, and test his volleying against the Czechoslovak's nerves and passing shots. But Lewis's services and approach shots were not good enough to permit that challenge to arise.

The first flicker of hope was kindley by a contested line decision that left Lewis within a point of going 2–4 down on his own service in the second set. He won the next five points—and then broke service after another briefly debated point had gone against him. Lewis admitted, later, that such upsetting calls did tend to light fires within him. Three consecutive games took Lewis to 5–3. But though Birner's game was beginning to look a little frayed at the edges, he managed to break back and then had those three match points: two of them well won by Lewis, the other a Birner error.

Then the confidence of the reprieved flowed into Lewis, and what had been difficult became easy. Birner's morale was drained by the pressure imposed on him. Lewis won because he had the resilience to recover from twumiwm

OTHER RESULTS: Austria 2, Hungary 1; West Germany 2, Soviet Union 1.
Sweden 3, Finland 0.

Detroit, Feb 4.—Susan Barker, of Britain, playing her first match in nearly two months, beat Lea Antonopolis, 6–2, 3–6, 6–4 last night in the opening round of a tournament here.

DETROIT: Miss S. Barker (GB) beat Miss L. Antonopolis, 6–2, 3–6, 6–4; Miss C. Kohde (WG) beat Miss R. Marsikova (Czechoslovakia), 6–1, 6–3.

L. Bonder (US) beat N. Bohm (Sweden), 7–6 (11-9), 6–4. M. Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat I. Villiger (Switzerland), 6–1, 6–1. V. Ruzici (Romania) beat L. Norton (US), 6–4, 7–6 (7–5). B. Potter (US) beat K. Horvath (US), 6–1, 6–4. C. Kohde (WG) beat R. Marsikova (Czechoslovakia), 6–1, 6–3. S. Barker (GB) beat L. Antonopolis (US), 6–2, 3–6, 6–4. P. Shriver (US) beat S. Acker (US), 6–1, 6–3. H. Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) beat I. Budarova (Czechoslovakia), 6–1, 6–1.

MAR DEL PLATA: First round: (Argentine unless stated): E. Dibbs (US) beat E. Bengoachea, 6–3, 7–5; J. Higueras (Spain) beat P. Kronk (Australia), 6–4, 6–2; V. Pecci (Paraguay) beat G. Aubone, 6–3, 6–4; G. Urpi (Spain) beat C. Lando, 6–4, 6–4; F. Lopez Maeso (Spain) beat D. Carter (Australia), 6–3, 5–7, 6–4.

RICHMOND: V. Van Patten beat B. Gottfried, 7–5, 6–2; G. Mayer beat P. Portes (France), 6–1, 6–1; I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat Tim Gullikson, 6–0, 6–2; R. Tanner beat R. Manson, 7–6, 6–3; Y. Noah (France) beat K. Curren, 6–7, 6–3, 6–4; R. Ramirez (Mexico) beat W. Scanlon, 6–2, 6–4; J. Sadri beat T. Waltke, 6–2, 7–6.

Discovery in a Swedish sports hall gives British children a new game

Short cut to a tennis revolution

"Short" tennis is no gimmick, Brian Blincoe, the Lawn Tennis Association's national coach and East region development officer, likes to emphasize. The six months long pilot scheme involving primary school children in his area between the ages of six and 11 ended with a round robin tournament in Cambridge on Sunday.

Mr Blincoe knows that it will be several years before the effect short tennis has on the game of tennis as a whole can be properly gauged, but he is convinced that it is the most exciting innovation in years.

In the various talk-ins he has given to primary schoolteachers and pupils, Mr Blincoe will often open the proceedings with a demonstration which, he feels, says it all. First he takes a child on to a full-size court and, handing across a conventional racket, asks for a knock-up. When that fails, he moves across to short tennis. There, with the smaller court and lightweight equipment, the same child is capable, within minutes of having a long rally, even a game.

"What strikes one most," Mr Blincoe says, "is the fact that the children are so uninhibited playing short tennis. When they are not having to wrestle with a big racket and a relatively heavy ball, they play backhands and forehands with almost equal abandon."

Short tennis was introduced to Britain by Derek Bone, the LTA's national junior coordinator, and Susan Mappin, the former Wightman Cup player. In Sweden for the European junior championships in the summer of 1979, Mr Bone and Miss Mappin saw a hall full of short tennis equipment. They had been examining ways of getting more youngsters involved in tennis and here, it seemed, was the answer. They stole into the hall to give the game a try, and their first stop on arriving home was to drop off a sample short tennis package at the Slazenger factory.

It was on a return visit to Sweden later that year that Mr Bone and Miss Mappin first saw short tennis being played. Both schoolteachers before joining the LTA, they had been amazed at the way in which the Sweden-Britain junior international had the full attention of rows of small children — and it was only afterwards that they learned how these youngsters were all players in their own right. That weekend the LTA representatives watched some 70 or 80 five to seven-year-olds in action and noted how the game was being taken seriously enough for there to be a pupil-coach ratio of 8 to 1.

Mr Blincoe, a former schoolboy football international, had been making great strides with junior tennis in his area long before he was chosen to head the short tennis scheme. When he was appointed Norfolk county coach in 1966, his brief had been to put Norfolk tennis on the map. "The region had one player of junior Wimbledon standard when he started but, during his term of office, the number rose to 30. Perhaps his most satisfying achievement was that of plucking Amanda Brown at the age of 10 from a field of 125 youngsters at a Prudential Open tennis centre. Miss Brown, daughter of the Norwich City football manager, is now 15 and has already won the under-18 grass and covered court championships.

However, too many of the boys who came under Mr Blincoe's eye were 13, 14 and 15-year-old rejects from other sports. Short tennis, he feels, will go a long way towards rectifying this: where it is introduced in primary schools, it will have as good a chance as rugby or football, cricket or athletics of touching a youngster's imagination.

There is no reason to suppose that the all-court game a child develops in mini-tennis will be lost when the switch is made to full tennis. Indeed, what so appeals to Mr Blincoe is that when he took one of his pupils on to a full-size court after short tennis, the child in question opted at once for a serve and volley game.

If short tennis catches on in other areas to the same extent as it has done in the East region —143 schools and eight sports centres have snapped it up—the greater part of this particular LTA dream will have been realized.

Whether or not the number of good tennis players coming through will be commensurate with the increase in numbers is a vexed question. Despite the contribution to the junior game of such invaluable sponsors as Saab, BP and Prudential, the progress of a tennis player in Britain today is still far from merely a matter of the child's potential. To no small degree, it is a matter of opportunity, environment and, above all, cost.

A little West Indian lad who showed abundant promise in winning a short tennis competition in Huddersfield said afterwards: "At this rate, there's going to come a point when I shall have to get myself a racket and a ball."

Lewine Mair

Photographs by David Jones

Tennis playschool: from small beginnings a revolution may grow, nurtured by a mini-game that is kids' stuff.

Fishing

Salmon disease may be a form of sunburn

By Conrad Voss Bark

The dreaded salmon disease, known as UDN, which has killed thousands of fish in the last 10 years in rivers all round the British Isles, may be simply an exaggerated form of sunburn.

UDN—or ulcerated dermal necrosis—starts as a skin lesion on the head or back of the salmon which is then attacked by a fungoid growth, causing gradual blindness and death. Sometimes hundreds of salmon in a river are attacked by it and the pools become full of dead and dying fish. There is no known cure and no one has been able to discover the cause.

Two Scottish scientists, A. M. Bullock of the Scottish Marine Biological Association, and Professor R. J. Roberts, of Stirling University's aquaculture department, now believe that they may have discovered the cause. Certain types of marine worms contain a substance known as porphyrin and if salmon eat large quantities of these worms while at sea, minute traces of porphyrin get into the bloodstream.

The salmon is unaffected while in deep water but as soon as it enters the rivers and is exposed to strong sunlight the porphyrin causes the skin to become oversensitive to light and lesions occur. These lesions are then open to attack by fungoid growths which can spread over large parts of the body.

If this theory is correct then we are no further forward in controlling the disease, which was particularly bad last year on some Scottish rivers. The only cure would be for the salmon to stop eating worms.

Equestrianism

Why Tigre decision seems hard on Miss Bradley

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Caroline Bradley topped the table of World Cup ratings after the European autumn circuit ended at Olympia. But she is unlikely to press home her advantage in the spring qualifiers or in the final at Birmingham in April after losing Tigre. Donald Bannocks, the Birmingham stonemason who owned a half share in Tigre, and paid Miss Bradley £80,000 for her half last summer, has taken the horse away from her.

Mr Bannocks told me: "Caroline had signed another contract, so I was left with no alternative but to take my horse away. Tomorrow he goes to Mr Louis Solomon at Macklins to be sold. Two people whom I respect have advised me that the only thing I can do now is to sell. Tigre was not entered for the Lancia final, even though I did not give permission for him to miss it. I hope he stays in this country, but David Broome is no longer interested."

Last summer Mr Bannocks invited sealed tenders for the horse he had helped Miss Bradley to buy for £9,000 in 1976. Tigre had been tried and found wanting by most of the top Dutch and German riders, but in Miss Bradley's hands he helped to win a world and a European team title for Britain. Last year he won the Queen Elizabeth Cup and was the leading show jumper in terms of money won.

At the Royal International Horse Show last July Mr Bannocks said: "My one concern has been to ensure that the horse stays in this country. I do not wish to split up a successful team and I recognize that Caroline and Tigre are obviously a partnership". This transpired after five hours of talks between himself and Miss Bradley. Yesterday he said: "I have had one world champion and I may have another in a different discipline" (he also owns dressage horses).

Miss Bradley's new contract, with Tricentrol, concerns only her own young horses and has no possible bearing on her relationship with Mr Bannocks. She told me: "I informed Mr Bannocks about the other contract in early December, long before the news was released. I have to earn a living as well as riding grade A horses. I wanted to keep Tigre because I love him and love riding him—now its up to me to organize myself so that I have six grade A horses at my disposal".

It seems hard that Miss Bradley—brave, hardworking and utterly straight—should find herself in this unhappy situation. One can only hope that someone will buy Tigre and return him to her. It would be pleasant if the World Cup could be won by a British rider in the year that the final takes place in England.

Basketball

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final round, sixth series: Cibona Zagreb 86, Moderne Le Mans 83; Squibb Cantu 94, Zhalgiris Kaunas 89.

RONCHETTI CUP: Quarter-final round, sixth series: Monting Zagreb 78, Spartacus Antwerpen 39; Vozdovac Belgrade 90, Slavia Prague 76.

KORAC CUP: Quarter-final round, sixth series: Partizan Belgrade 116, Asvell Villeurbane 89; Royal Anderlecht (Belgium) 71, Sebastiani Rieti (Italy) 72; Sunair Ostend (Belgium) 82, Juventud Badalona (Spain) 64.

Rugby Union

Two caps call it a day

David Cooke, the former Harlequins and England centre, has retired. Cooke, aged 32, who has been with Northampton for the past two seasons but has suffered various niggling injuries, said: "The first team have finished with me and I felt it would be a good time to bow out gracefully." Cooke, who went to Loughborough Colleges, was capped four times in 1976 and captained Harlequins from 1977-79 "I don't want to stand in the way of youngsters coming through", he said.

Another former England player, the Leicester No 8, Gary Adey, has also retired after making 377 appearances for his club. He was capped twice in 1976 and played his first game for Leicester 14 years ago. He went on Leicester's centenary tour of Australia and Fiji last August but business and domestic commitments have limited his appearances this season. He scored 56 tries for the club and, in 1976, toured Canada with the Barbarians.

Leicester have been forced to make one change to the side that Beat Ballymena for their visit to Richmond on Saturday where, as the Midland merit table leaders, they meet London Scottish, the London merit table leaders. Knowles, a new recruit this season, takes over in the back row from the England B flanker, Johnson, a police sergeant who is needed on duty because of the visit of Manchester United to play Leicester City at Filbert Street, accompanied by thousands of supporters who will be closely monitored by the Leicester constabulary. Knowles has made five appearances since joining Leicester from Glamorgan Wanderers and has scored two tries.

The Blackheath flanker, Skinner, returns to the first team for Saturday's visit to London Irish after serving an automatic 30-day suspension for being sent off.

Wasps, who meet Moseley at Sudbury on Saturday, have agreed to host the representative game on March 15 between the England schools 19 group XV and England colts. A former member of the 19 group side, Lozowski, will be wearing Wasps colours against Moseley, since he takes the place of the club captain, Taylor, absent on business. This is Wasps' only change from the side beaten at Bridgend and Moseley will hear in mind that, last season, they lost to the London club on their own ground.

Rugby League

New duo end experiments

By Keith Macklin

The practice of using England international games as a proving ground for potential Great Britain players will not continue under the regime of the manager, Colin Hutton, and coach, John Whiteley. The new duo in charge of British Rugby League reiterated yesterday that England teams will be chosen from the best players available, without experiments and with new players brought into the side only if they earn their place on competitive merit with proven internationals.

Consequently, when the England team to play France at Headingley on February 21 is announced next Tuesday, the nucleus will be seasoned internationals who have played for Great Britain in this season's games against New Zealand. Unfortunately for England two gifted young players in Burke (Widnes) and Evans (Featherstone Rovers) are unavailable through injury, but there are likely to be places for other players of outstanding Great Britain experience and ability in Fairbairn (Wigan), Woods (Leigh), Drummond (Leigh) and Joyner (Castleford).

The pack poses the most problems, and it is here that there are multiple choices and the possibility of a degree of "blooding" of new caps. The hooking position has three contenders in Ward (Leeds), Elwell (Widnes) and Watkinson (Hull Kingston Rovers), and there is a problem at prop forward because an otherwise obvious Great Britain choice, Skerrett, of Hull, plays for Wales.

This creates an opening for Case, the Under 24 forward from Warrington to attain a senior level cap after some splendid performances in the front row. In the back three positions there will be strong competition for places from the likes of Pinner (St Helens), Flanagan (Oldham) and two Warrington youngsters, Potter and Hunter.

France also announce their squad on Tuesday, and are expected to make at least a couple of changes from the team which beat Wales.

Racing

Carson could take ride on Parlour Game in Lincoln

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The Lincoln Handicap may be seven weeks away, but that still did not prevent talk of the first leg of the spring double from enlivening the afternoon at Windsor yesterday. Parlour Game was the Lincoln candidate concerned and Ron Smyth, her trainer, who has just returned from a holiday in Barbados, was full of praise for the way that she had wintered.

Parlour Game evidently looks every bit as well as her trainer does. But with Greville Starkey likely to be retained by Guy Harwood to partner Heron's Hollow in the big race at Doncaster, Smyth is now looking for a jockey to partner Lord McAlpine's filly. Parlour Game showed last year that she comes to hand early by winning her first three races of the season and, apart from the draw, that is a prime consideration.

The man whose services Smyth is likely to seek is the champion jockey, Willie Carson, who won two races on her last year. In the circumstances it will not be surprising if the 16-1 currently being offered against Parlour Game winning the Lincoln by Hills, who also sponsor the race, does not last long.

Smyth, Lord McAlpine and his racing manager, Michael Pope, were all there yesterday to watch Chichester Bird try to win the Copper Horse Handicap Hurdle. But they were to be disappointed. Neither Chichester Bird nor any of the others saw the way that Shell Burst went once John Francome released the brakes between the last two hurdles.

The way that Shell Burst won drew further attention to Jugador's chance of winning the Schweppes Gold Trophy at Newbury on Saturday week and the immediate reaction of John Santer, Hills's man on the spot, was to cut his price again to 12–1. As for Shell Burst, he was his trainer Les Kennard's 22nd winner of the season.

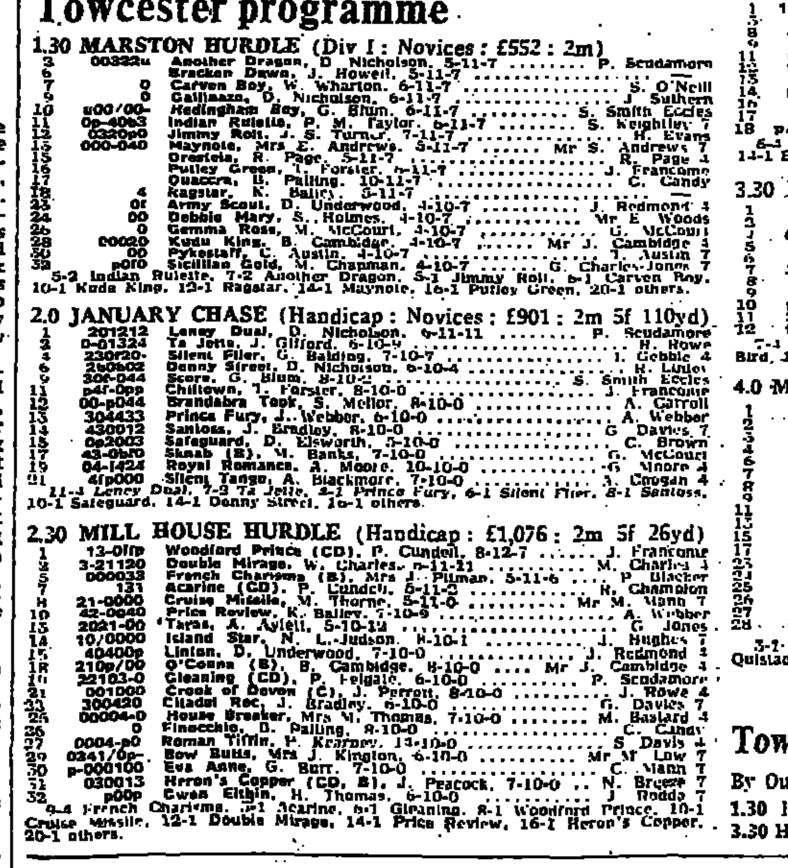
Kennard expected to win the Oakside Novices Steeplechase as well with Grand Hussar but the horse let him down badly. The race was won well by More Pleasure, who was Richard Linley's 34th winner of the season, equalling his previous best total. Linley has struck up a good partnership with More Pleasure's trainer, Nick Gaselee, who told me that his horse had been struck into so badly in his only previous race this winter that he had no option but to give him virtually three months off in which to grow a new hoof.

The finish of the Boveney Handicap Steeplechase was dominated by Royal Stuart and Right Mingle, who have both been entered for the Grand National. Sprinting clear rounding the elbow that leads into the straight, Royal Stuart soon established an unassailable lead. He won by eight lengths and his price for the big Liverpool race was clipped to 40—1.

Last year Royal Stuart finished fourth in the National. In the opinion of Stan Mellor, his trainer, good ground is a prerequisite. Yesterday Mellor was the first to admit that he was pleasantly surprised at the way that his horse had coped on ground that was officially described as soft.

Today's card at Towcester is the only meeting. Haydock Park was abandoned yesterday because the ground there was waterlogged. With John Francome riding, Silent Burn could turn out to be a sound bet to win the Yardley Gobion Handicap Steeplechase. Silent Burn has fallen in his last two races and each time he was going like a winner when the fourth last fence at Wincanton brought about his downfall.

With absolutely no disrespect for that able amateur, Tim Thomson-Jones, who rode him on those occasions, Silent Burn could easily benefit from Francome's expertise this afternoon. Silent Burn is trained by Tim Forster, who told me yesterday that he had waited until he was sure that Francome could ride the horse before he risked him again in the hope that such a brilliant horseman as the former champion jockey would be able to ensure a clear round.



Towcester programme

1.30 MARSTON HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £552: 2m)
3 00322u Another Dragon, D. Nicholson, 5-11-7 ... P. Scudamore
6 Bracken Dawn, J. Howell, 5-11-7 ... —
7 0 Carven Boy, W. Wharton, 6-11-7 ... S. O'Neill
9 0 Gallinazo, D. Nicholson, 6-11-7 ... J. Suthern
10 u00/00- Hedingham Boy, G. Blum, 6-11-7 ... S. Smith Eccles
11 0p-4063 Indian Rulette, P. M. Taylor, 6-11-7 ... S. Keightley 7
12 0320p0 Jimmy Roll, J. S. Turner, 7-11-7 ... H. Evans
13 000-040 Maynote, Mrs E. Andrews, 5-11-7 ... Mr S. Andrews 7
15 Oresteia, R. Page, 5-11-7 ... R. Page 4
16 Putley Green, T. Forster, 6-11-7 ... J. Francome
17 Quaccra, B. Palling, 10-11-7 ... C. Candy
18 4 Ragstar, K. Bailey, 5-11-7 ... —
23 0f Army Scout, D. Underwood, 4-10-7 ... J. Redmond 4
24 00 Debbie Mary, S. Holmes, 4-10-7 ... Mr E. Woods
26 0 Gemma Ross, M. McCourt, 4-10-7 ... G. McCourt
28 00020 Kudu King, B. Cambidge, 4-10-7 ... Mr J. Cambidge 4
30 00 Pykestaff, C. Austin, 4-10-7 ... T. Austin 7
32 p0f0 Sicilian Gold, M. Chapman, 4-10-7 ... G. Charles-Jones 7
5-2 Indian Rulette, 7-2 Another Dragon, 5-1 Jimmy Roll, 6-1 Carven Boy, 10-1 Kudu King, 12-1 Ragstar, 14-1 Maynote, 16-1 Putley Green, 20-1 others.

2.0 JANUARY CHASE (Handicap: Novices: £901: 2m 5f 110yd)
1 201212 Leney Dual, D. Nicholson, 6-11-11 ... P. Scudamore
2 0-01324 Ta Jette, J. Gifford, 6-10-9 ... H. Rowe
4 230f20- Silent Flier, G. Balding, 7-10-7 ... I. Gebble 4
6 2f0602 Denny Street, D. Nicholson, 6-10-4 ... R. Linley
9 30f-044 Score, G. Blum, 8-10-2 ... S. Smith Eccles
11 p4f-0pp Chiltown, T. Forster, 8-10-0 ... J. Francome
12 00-p044 Brandabra Tops, S. Mellor, 8-10-0 ... A. Carroll
13 304433 Prince Fury, J. Webber, 6-10-0 ... A. Webber
14 430012 Santoss, J. Bradley, 8-10-0 ... G. Davies 7
15 0p2003 Safeguard, D. Elsworth, 5-10-0 ... C. Brown
17 43-0bf0 Skaab (B), M. Banks, 7-10-0 ... G. McCourt
19 04-1424 Royal Romance, A. Moore, 10-10-0 ... G. Moore 4
21 4fp000 Silent Tango, A. Blackmore, 7-10-0 ... J. Coogan 4
11-4 Leney Dual, 7-2 Ta Jette, 4-1 Prince Fury, 6-1 Silent Flier, 8-1 Santoss, 10-1 Safeguard, 14-1 Denny Street, 16-1 others.

2.30 MILL HOUSE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,076: 2m 5f 26yd)
1 13-0ffp Woodford Prince (CD), P. Cundell, 8-12-7 ... J. Francome
2 3-21120 Double Mirage, W. Charles, 6-11-11 ... M. Charles 4
5 000032 French Charisma (B), Mrs J. Pitman, 5-11-6 ... P. Blacker
7 131 Acarine (CD), P. Cundell, 5-11-2 ... R. Champion
8 21-0000 Cruise Missile, M. Thorne, 5-11-0 ... Mr M. Mann 7
10 42-0040 Price Review, K. Bailey, 7-10-9 ... A. Webber
13 2021-00 *Taras, A. Aylett, 5-10-12 ... G. Jones
14 10/0000 Island Star, N. L.-Judson, 8-10-1 ... J. Hughes 7
15 40400p Linton, D. Underwood, 7-10-0 ... J. Redmond 4
18 210p/00 O'Connor (B), B. Cambidge, 8-10-0 ... Mr J. Cambidge 4
19 22103-0 Gleaning (CD), P. Felgate, 6-10-0 ... P. Scudamore
21 001000 Crook of Devon (C), J. Perrett, 8-10-0 ... J. Rowe 4
23 300420 Citadel Rec, J. Bradley, 6-10-0 ... G. Davies 7
25 00004-0 House Breaker, Mrs M. Thomas, 7-10-0 ... M. Bastard 4
26 0 Finocchio, B. Palling, 8-10-0 ... C. Candy
27 0004-p0 Roman Tiffin, P. Kearney, 13-10-0 ... S. Davis 4
29 0341/0p- Bow Bells, Mrs J. Kington, 6-10-0 ... Mr M. Low 7
30 p-000100 Eva Anne, G. Burr, 7-10-0 ... C. Mann 7
31 030013 Heron's Copper (CD, B), J. Peacock, 7-10-0 ... N. Breeze 7
32 p00p Cwen Elthin, H. Thomas, 6-10-0 ... J. Rodda 7
9-4 French Charisma, 5-1 Acarine, 6-1 Gleaning, 8-1 Woodford Prince, 10-1 Cruise Missile, 12-1 Double Mirage, 14-1 Price Review, 16-1 Heron's Copper, 20-1 others.

3.0 YARDLEY GOBION CHASE (Handicap: £1,073: 3m 190yd)
1 1111/p-p Town Councillor, D. Browning, 8-11-10 ... R. Rowell
5 1051-1f Silent Burn, T. Forster, 10-11-7 ... J. Francome
8 032203 Abo, A. Moore, 9-11-2 ... G. Moore 4
9 fb0d33 Monty Python (CD, B), Mrs J. Pitman, 9-11-2 ... B. Smart
11 0p301-0 Cartrail, J. Old, 8-10-11 ... C. Candy
12 22-2100 Albury Lad, S. Mellor, 11-10-10 ... P. Blacker
13 41-020f Drumwynk, D. Hanley, 12-10-8 ... C. Brown
14 p-p30p2 Endurance Trust, Miss P. Neal, 11-10-4 ... W. Smith
16 0p-p White Magic, V. Soane, 11-10-0 ... G. McCourt
17 0p3p-f0 Rajmelaj, J. Gifford, 10-10-0 ... H. Rowe
18 p/ppu40- Moonee River, Mrs K. Wallace, 13-10-0 ... Miss J. Wallace 7
6-4 Silent Burn, 7-2 Monty Python, 8-1 Albury Lad, 8-1 Drumwynk, 10-1 Abo, 14-1 Endurance Trust, 16-1 Cartrail, 20-1 others.

3.30 ROTHERSTHORPE CHASE (Handicap: £822: 2m 50yd)
1 101333 Hazy Isle, J. Webber, 10-11-11 ... Mr P. Webber
3 22401p Tom Sawyer, G. Kindersley, 7-11-11 ... N. Danger 7
4 0-110pp Hashofet (CD), A. Ingham, 6-11-4 ... Steve Knight
5 000000 Brandy Fare, B. Shaw, 11-10-13 ... Mr A. Wilson
6 000404 Ballyknock Boy, Mrs M. Thomas, 8-10-13 ... M. Bastard 4
7 300-3c0 Moonshot, T. Forster, 7-10-12 ... Mr T. Thomson Jones
8 f-ppof0 Master Dealer, C. Jackson, 7-10-12 ... R. Hyett
9 023003 Brandy Bird, I. Dudgeon, 7-10-12 ... R. Linley
10 p24-00u Blessed Boy, M. Chapman, 9-10-11 ... G. Charles-Jones
11 20-4320 Lollipopman, J. Old, 5-10-10 ... S. May
12 f02/003 Linarto, F. Colon, 10-10-6 ... L. King 4
7-4 Hazy Isle, 3-1 Tom Sawyer, 9-2 Moonshot, 11-2 Lollipopman, 10-1 Brandy Bird, 14-1 Hashofet, 16-1 others.

4.0 MARSTON HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £552: 2m)
1 004010 Loyal and Regal (D), Mrs M. Thomas, 5-12-3 ... M. Bastard 4
2 00-00 Able Fellow, D. Hanley, 6-11-7 ... Mr W. Pearce
3 00f Amberdora, J. Gifford, 5-11-7 ... C. Kinane
4 0 Aspen Flare, C. James, 5-11-7 ... G. McNally
6 0 Esterbrook, C. Hockley, 6-11-7 ... J. Pearce
7 0 Gale Pretanse, D. Jackson, 8-11-7 ... Steve Knight
8 f Geoffs Gamble, Mrs G. Jones, 7-11-7 ... Mr A. Sharp 7
9 0 Kings Progress, P. M. Taylor, 5-11-7 ... A. Carroll
11 4400 Mr Whiskers, R. Head, 7-11-7 ... J. Francome
13 2 Port Askaig, T. Forster, 6-11-7 ... S. O'Neill
15 -204 Quistador, M. Chapman, 5-11-7 ... G. Charles-Jones 7
17 02 Vuljack, W. Wharton, 6-11-7 ... —
23 223202 Generous Bid, J. Wright, 4-10-7 ... S. Smith Eccles
24 0003 Headstone, N. Graham, 4-10-7 ... P. Burgoyne 4
25 0u Lady Frampton, W. Charles, 4-10-7 ... M. Charles 4
26 p000 Praed Street (B), R. Atkins, 4-10-7 ... R. Atkins
27 20 Prince of Steel, P. Cundell, 4-10-7 ... R. Strange 7
28 000020 Wimsey, R. Hoad, 4-10-7 ... R. Goldstein 4
3-1 Port Askaig, 9-2 Mr Whiskers, 5-1 Generous Bid, 7-1 Amberdora, 8-1 Quistador, 10-1 Prince of Steel, 12-1 Wimsey, Vuljack, 16-1 others.
* Doubtful runner

Towcester selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

1.30 Indian Rulette. 2.0 Leney Dual. 2.30 Acarine. 3.0 Silent Burn. 3.30 Hazy Isle. 4.0 Port Askaig.

Windsor results

2.0 (2.1) HOLYPORT HURDLE (Selling handicap: £1??: 2m)
RADNORCLIFFE, b m, by Mountain Call—Catherine's Plea (J. Holden), 5-10-4 G. Moore (9-1) 1
Broughty Pier .. C. Smith (11-1) 2
Singles Fool ...... I. Cox (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 65p; places, 19p, 27p, 18p, 27p. Dual F: £26.88. CSF: £14.26. A. Moore, at Brighton. 1l, [illegible] 18 ran.

2.30 (2.33) COPPER HORSE HURDLE (Handicap: [illegible])
SHELL BURST, [illegible] Coral Beach [illegible] Kilanen [illegible]
Rushal [illegible]
Jakaroo [illegible]
TOTE: [illegible] 17p. [illegible] Kennard [illegible] Joe (7-1) 4th. 15 ran.

3.0 (3.1) BOVENEY CHASE (Handicap: £1,508: 3m)
ROYAL STUART, b g, by Bally Royal—Shamayra (J. Murray Brogg) 10-11-10 P. Blacker (11-2) 1
Right Mingle R. Champion (9-2 jt fav) 2
Spider Man .. James Guest (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 93p; places, 30p, 29p, 56p. Dual F: £1.17. CSF: £5.01. S. Mellor, at Lambourn. 8l, 4l. Charlie Mouse (other 9-2 jt fav), Roi De [illegible]

3.30 (3.33) HAIG WHISKY HURDLE (Qualifier: Novices: [illegible])
COMBS DITCH, [illegible]
TOTE: [illegible]

4.0 (4.1) OAKSIDE CHASE (Novices handicap: £966: 2m 3f)
MORE PLEASURE, b g, by Pleasure Seeker—More Baby (Miss M. Carrington-Smith) 7-10-10 R. Linley (12-1) 1
Cragg .... Mrs S. French (5-1) 2
Toyca R. Rowell (7-2 jt fav) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.51; places, 42p, £2.74, 14p. Dual F: winner or second with any other 41p. CSF: £41.71. N. Gaselee, at Lambourn. 3l, 8l. Grand Hussar other 7-2 jt fav. Daviol (8-1) 4th. 11 ran.

4.30 (4.38) BROCAS HURDLE (Novices: £485: 2½m)
LIGHT SNACKS, b g, by Gulf Pearl—Mathude (Mrs P. Blackburn) 4-10-7 M. O'Halloran (9-4 fav) 1
Arctic Rascal G. Davies (12-2) 2
Kutani .... M. Barrett (33-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 34p; places, 11p, 31p, 53p. Dual F: £1.58. CSF: £1.7?. Miss S. Morris at Chard. 3l, 1½l. Queen's Magic (33-1) 4th. 20 ran. NR: Testwood Park.
PLACEPOT: £9.55.

Chinrullah backed

Corals have had good support for Mick O'Toole's Chinrullah in the Gold Cup and have laid the Irish runner to lose £17,000 for the Cheltenham race. He is now 25-1 from 3-1. Mecca have cut Meistersinger from 50-1 to 40-1 for the Schweppes Gold Trophy.

Drop in Ayr revenue

The Ayr Western Meeting Club report a drop in revenue for 1980 of £32,538. This was partly due to the recession, partly to the appalling weather and partly to "the crippling burden of rates almost three times heavier than comparable courses in England".

Muldoon swoops for the best for Sea Pigeon

By Michael Seely

John Francome will ride Sea Pigeon in the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham on March 17, because John O'Neill has been advised not to ride for the rest of the season. Pat Muldoon, the owner of the most versatile gelding since Brown Jack, announced yesterday: "I am sure Jonjo has come to the right decision. It's a great blow, as he knows the old horse inside out. But I've had an unwritten agreement with Francome for some time, in case of this eventuality and I'm lucky to have obtained the services of such a fantastic jockey, and outstanding horseman."

O'Neill's specialist, Hugh Barber, told the injured jockey on Tuesday that he was in danger of losing his right leg if he resumed race-riding too quickly. His injured ankle has started to swell up with the pressure that O'Neill has been putting on it and a complete rest has been advised. O'Neill is one of the nicest men in racing, and this decision must have come as a bitter blow. Francome rode Sea Pigeon for the first time when winning the Holsten Diat Pils Hurdle at Sandown Park in November, and will be seeking his first victory in the Champion Hurdle.

Sea Pigeon remains a firm favourite with Ladbrokes at 11—4. They then go 11—2 Heighlin, 7—1 Daring Run, 8—1 Celtic Ryde, and 11—1 Pollardstown. David Elsworth said at Leicester that Heighlin would have his Cheltenham preliminary in the Kingwell Pattern Hurdle at Wincanton.

Elsworth is convinced that Pollardstown is the main threat to Heighlin, and not Sea Pigeon. "Sea Pigeon is not a thorough stayer. But Pollardstown loves Cheltenham, and is sure to be battling it out up the final hill." Good trainer and shrewd judge though Elsworth may be, it is difficult to agree with him over this point. Although it can be argued that Sea Pigeon beat a deteriorating Monksfield last year, the reigning champion certainly showed no sign or lack of stamina or fighting spirit when finishing runner-up to the Irish horse in that mighty battle in 1979.

There has been renewed support recently for Daring Run, who was so narrowly defeated by Slaney Idol in the Waterford Supreme Crystal Novices Hurdle at Cheltenham last March. At Navan, Peter McCreery's six-year-old showed that he is reaching his peak at the right time, when giving weight and a beating to the Irish Sweeps hurdle winner, Carrig Willy. Bodelle, who finished a well beaten third that afternoon, further endorsed the value of the form when defying top weight in a handicap at Ayr last Saturday.

Francome's engagement to ride Sea Pigeon means that Peter Cundell is now without a jockey for Celtic Ryde. Cundell is suffering from a bad attack of influenza and the Compton trainer was visibly shaken when I broke the news to him yesterday. "This is going to take some thinking about", he said. Celtic Ryde is due to run in the Oteley Hurdle at Sandown on Saturday. But however you look at it, Sea Pigeon and Heighlin appear to dominate the Champion Hurdle picture at present."

Plenty of interest is still being shown in the Schweppes Gold Trophy. The Tote and Ladbrokes report further support for Applalto, who is now clear favourite at 9-1 with both firms.

Bootlaces and Jugador are the other two horses that continue to be well backed. Mike Cowtan, of the Tote, said yesterday: "This promises to be the most keenly contested Schweppes for some time, and we are continuing to lay a variety of horses." The Tote have also laid Diamond Edge for Saturday's Freshfields Holiday Handicap at Sandown. Fulke Walwyn's brilliant but erratic steeplechaser is now 2-1 favourite from 9-4.

STATE OF GOING (official): Haydock Park: Abandoned, waterlogged. Towcester: Chase course, good to soft; Hurdles course, soft. Tomorrow: Sandown Park: Good to soft. Kelso: Soft.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Sweet Monda.

How close are civil servants to a war?

Leaders of unions representing 500,000 civil servants meet today under chandeliers in the Law Society's offices to plan a further step toward a serious confrontation with the Government over its policy of pay restraint.

The battle lines were drawn up late last year when the Government decided that the system of pay research in the Civil Service was to be dropped in favour of cash limits as the determining factor for pay increases this year.

The cash limit will not be announced for some time but will come nowhere near matching the 15 to 20 per cent claim which the unions are expected to agree today. Mrs Margaret Thatcher told the Commons in November that money available for pay rises for government employees would be "broadly within the same financial disciplines" as the 6 per cent allowed for local government pay awards.

With such stark differences between the white collar civil servants and their employers, it looks increasingly likely that a pay battle, on which the wealthy unions are prepared to spend more than £3m, will begin next month.

Union leaders claim that with £3m pledged to finance any action, they will be able to handle a prolonged dispute even if it means paying out £300,000 a week to members

The unions feel that this year they have no choice but to challenge the Government in view of what they regard as a series of attacks on the Civil Service since the 1979 election. These include Mrs Thatcher's determination to reduce the service to 630,000 posts by April 1984 involving the loss of about 100,000 jobs.

Then there is the Prime Minister's distaste of the benefits retired civil servants and other public sector employees receive through index-linked pensions. The report of the inquiry into index-linking of pensions which the Government set up under Sir Bernard Scott, former head of Lucas Industries, is to be published today and is thought to suggest that employees' contributions should be increased.

Finally there was the decision to suspend the pay research under which civil servants' salaries are compared with those for similar jobs in the private sector. This work is done by the independent Pay Research Unit which provides reports that form the basis of negotiations between the unions and government.

The unions started planning their action several weeks ago. First is likely to be a national one-day strike early next month, followed by sustained "guerilla" action which will include selective strikes and lightning walk outs.

The unions' aim is to hit government operations rather than the public.

Areas favoured for action include government computer centres which process revenues, such as the Customs and Excise at Southend and the PAYE computers, which would curtail government ability to collect revenues, with the inevitable effect on the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

Union leaders claim that with £3m already pledged to finance the action and the prospect of further funds from voluntary levies of members starting this week and next, they will be able to manage a prolonged dispute. They estimate that they will need £300,000 a week to pay 85 per cent of the salaries of those members either on strike or suspended by their employers.

Suspensions are likely to be the Government's first line of defence and there is confidence in Whitehall that the Government will be able to ride out the storm. It is stressed that the unions cannot, and will not, be allowed to win, as concessions allow many other state employees to slip through the pay restraint net.

The Government's contingency plans for prolonged action include insisting on employees transferring to posts left by staff who have walked out, so long as the work falls within their grade. Refusal to "blackleg" would lead to suspension without pay.

There is also scepticism in government circles about the willingness of workers in key areas, such as computer centres, to be used as shock troops, although the unions counter that such groups have pledged to take action. In any case, the knowledge that they will receive virtually all their normal salary from the unions while on strike is likely to sweeten the pill.

While the union leaderships are hoping not to take action which would disrupt payment of social security and unemployment benefits, they are coming under increasing pressure from members in the departments of Health and Social Security and Employment for some kind of action.

This will be resolved by the end of the month when the unions will have to take a decision in principle on action which could cause hardship to the unemployed and poorer sections of the community. It could prove difficult to restrain militants in the DHSS computer centre at Newcastle, for instance.

Such is the grievance felt that moderate groups such as the First Division Association, which represents senior Whitehall grades, and the Inland Revenue Staff Federation are committed to the campaign of industrial action to re-establish the pay comparability system.

The system is unlikely to be re-activated in its present form and the unions are pressing for modifications, including making the agreement binding on the Government. The Government has said that it does not want the Pay Research Unit to start collecting information for next year's negotiations.

Instead the Government wants the unit to update in the Autumn the reports drawn up for this year's pay round. The unions are reserving their position on this and hope to divorce the issue as far as is possible from this year's negotiations for which they have set a three week deadline.

With other challenges to its pay policy from workers in the public utilities and the prickly question of the negotiations covering 250,000 NHS anciliary workers still to be resolved, the Government cannot relish the prospect of a confrontation with civil servants. Thus, over the next few weeks the feverish activity in Whitehall on plans to combat the action will continue.

David Felton

Bernard Levin

Odd, the American sound of music

The death of Samuel Barber prompts the asking of a question that has usually been altogether avoided on the ground that it can only give offence, and even when asked has been couched in terms so roundabout and obscure that it has been quite meaningless to the bystanders. Now whatever else they say about me, they rarely if ever claim that I am inflexibly averse to giving offence, so here goes, though perhaps I had better say before I begin that I do have an answer to the question, and it is one that, considered aright, robs it of offence even in my mouth.

The question is: why, in the two centuries of its existence, has the United States not produced a single composer of the first or second rank, and only one (Aaron Copland) of the third? No, I shall not permit a denial of the premise; consideration will be given only to candidates who accept the proposition and attempt to explain it. I am, however, willing to gloss it before the bell rings, and I can do so by rephrasing it thus: why has American music still not risen to the level of, say, Mendelssohn? (Candidates attempting to drag in composers who became naturalized Americans, or even who did no more than live there—Schoenberg, Bloch, Grainger, Stravinsky—will not only receive no marks but will be sent to bed without any supper.)

Sousa is fun, of course, and apart from Copland is about the only American composer whom music-lovers in the rest of the world have ever heard of, or need to have heard of for that matter; there are those who have good words to say for Charles Ives and Carl Ruggles, though the number of good words generally tends to vary in inverse proportion with the amount of the composers' work the speakers have actually listened to; Roy Harris, in my experience, is not altogether unbearable; but after these, who?

Two of America's best known composers: Aaron Copland (left) and the march king John Philip Sousa.

Barber himself, though I have no doubt he behaved perfectly towards his family, invariably paid his rent on time and never kicked a cat in his life, was a composer whose work exuded such stupefying tedium that it would have been better all round if a millstone had been hanged about his neck, and he had been cast into the uttermost depths of the sea. And he was a considerable improvement on most of the rest. Come; would those of you who have been gobbling like drug-crazed turkeys since I started this *willingly* go to a concert consisting of, or even containing, the work of Walter Piston, Virgil Thomson, Elliot Carter? And if you would, which I do not believe, how about Paul Creston, Roger Sessions, Deems Taylor? And if you still unblushingly stand there and pretend the answer is yes, tell me whether you would be willing to stake your life on your chances of remaining awake to the end of a concert of the music of any or all of them?

Two hundred years is far too long a span to be represented musically by such inadequate standard-bearers, and if you claim that it isn't, that an artistic tradition needs even longer to strike root, grow and mature, the argument breaks down at once as soon as you try applying it to literature. America has not yet produced a Shakespeare (nor has any other country, though), but she has produced Herman Melville, Henry James, Mark Twain, Eugene O'Neill, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Scott Fitzgerald and at least a couple of score more writers worthy to be compared with these, and there not a single composer (apart, as I say, from Copland) who can be considered their equivalent. Why ever not? Why has American music been dominated by a deadly academicism, why so many hundreds of thousands of bars without a spark of life in any of them?

The answer, I am sure, is not to be found in the curious habit that art has of popping up in one country in one form while emerging simultaneously in another country in a different form altogether. Why, for instance, did England produce playwrights while Holland was turning out painters, and not the other way round? Why have the German-speaking lands given the world at least eight of the dozen greatest composers? Why, considering the gigantic proportion of Jews among leading violinists and pianists, have there been only a tiny handful of Jewish opera-singers of outstanding quality? I do not know the answer to any of these questions, but I do not believe that such inexplicable accidents (or whatever they are if they are not accidents) explain the American musical desert that stretches from the Declaration of Independence to the present day; apart from anything else, two centuries is quite long enough a period to have supported several flowerings of musical genius if there were any seeds in the soil.

At this point, of course, when the audience has for half an hour been watching my left hand manipulating the yellow handkerchief, I am ready to draw attention to what my right hand, quite un-noticed, has been doing all this time. For the truth is that the United States has not only produced a succession of composers whose work has rightly established itself throughout the world; she has invented and developed her own wholly unique musical art form, which has never taken proper root in any other country. That list of terrible bores above consists of the American composers who have rowed against this giant river and who have therefore been fated to perish utterly in its waters, while those who caught the tide have sailed into immortality on it.

I am not technically equipped to discuss the origins of the modern American musical-comedy or what it has drawn from jazz, the Negro spiritual or the work of Stephen Foster and Victor Herbert. But it is not necessary to set it in its historical framework to recognize it for what, at its best, it is: a body of creative achievement that is indeed worthy to stand beside—precisely because it is not competing with—the body of European music, and not suffer from the comparison. He who will deny that Gershwin and Porter, Kern and Sondheim, Rodgers and Berlin, Loewe and Bernstein, are composers of the highest quality (and some of them also lyric poets of no little distinction) will make himself look foolish. The trick is to stop looking for the American successor to Beethoven and to start looking for American composers who are not the successors to anybody. And as soon as we look in that direction, we see the stage crowded with music.

Looked at like that, the pattern of American music is no more (though no less) mysterious than the Italian pattern which ensured, whatever it thought it was doing, that Italy produced operas but not symphonies. There was no reason why Italy should not have produced a race of symphonists while she was also producing Verdi, Donizetti, Rossini, Puccini, but she didn't. There was no reason why America should not have given birth to an Elgar, a Vaughan Williams, a Britten, while she was nurturing that remarkable brood I have listed above, but she didn't. What she did send forth in that field doesn't bear thinking about, let alone listening to; possessing what we do of what she sent forth elsewhere, it is unnecessary for us to do either.

Ronald Butt on the impact of the social democrats

A menace or a blessing for Mrs Thatcher?

Should Mrs Thatcher be worried by Dr Owen and Mr William Rodgers? There is a thesis that she should be, and even inside the Cabinet there are some who are apprehensive that an embryonic social democratic party will do them considerable harm if Mrs Thatcher persists in refusing to generate some economic expansion to counteract the steady rise in unemployment.

Such misgivings will no doubt have been heightened by the MORI poll findings in *The Sunday Times* last weekend that both Mr William Rodgers and Mr Ian Wrigglesworth would be in danger of losing their north-eastern constituencies if they stood as social democrats in an election held now. For the poll suggested that much of the support that the social democrats would receive would be taken not from the Labour Party but from people who had voted Conservative in 1979 and are now thoroughly disenchanted with the Government.

Now there is no argument that an effective social democratic party would be a menace to the Tories. It is the vices of the Labour Party that have kept the Conservatives in such flourishing business these many years. The sort of radical change to which the founding fathers of socialism committed the Labour Party is deeply unpopular. So is the instinct, from which a large part of Labour can never quite escape, that it can properly have an understanding relationship with Marxist-Communism; that in the last analysis there are, as it used to be said in popular front times, no enemies on the left.

Because the formal creed of socialism is unconvincing and unpalatable to most people the Labour Party in practice has hitherto had to modify it. That is also why other socialist parties abroad have become social democratic, and why in 1959 the Gaitskellites tried and failed to emulate them by ditching the Clause IV commitment to wholesale public ownership and fundamentalist socialism. Successive postwar Labour politicians have opted for a mixed economy and firm support for the Western alliance. Yet, to the great advantage of the Tories, Labour has never managed to make the clean break to social democracy, and has remained like a man trying to ride two borses at once.

Now, for reasons too familiar to need repetition, the left has achieved an ascendancy in the Labour Party it has never previously enjoyed, and the vanguard of the social democrats are on the brink of breaking away. Today, their first national advertisement for supporters for the new Council of Social Democracy appears in *The Guardian*. How apprehensive should the Tories be at the prospect of being faced by opponents without the handicap of the leftism that has alienated much support from the Labour Party and who may capture Conservative votes?

In the long run, an *effective* social democratic party would obviously be a danger but I do not think Mrs Thatcher has much cause yet to worry about its impact. So far as the poll findings in Mr Rodgers and Mr Wrigglesworth's constituencies are concerned, I doubt very much whether these would be characteristic of the country as a whole in a real election, now or later. It is only natural that some Tories in safe Labour seats (as these are) should plump for the social democrats in order to build them up against the Labour Party, to provide a less distateful voting option, and in the process to shake the Government out of its present attitude into economic expansion. After all, Tories lose jobs too.

Even in a different sort of constituency, "voters" might be tempted to express their annoyance with Mrs Thatcher in their answers to pollsters, when there is nothing to lose. But it is hardly conceivable that disafected Tories would vote social democrat in any number in marginal seats if they could see that the result was simply to let in a much more socialist Labour candidate. That is why I doubt very much whether the existence of a new social democratic group can do anything in the early stages except help Mrs Thatcher by splitting the left-wing vote.

Once the social democratic party were established it would be different, so the key question is what are the chances of that happening? There can be no clear answer, but there are pointers towards an answer. The real need on the left is for a popular party, and I do not see that emerging clearly from the public attitudes of the present Council of Social Democrats. Rightly, they are much admired for their resistance to extremism, but from the point of view of many ordinary citizens, their own policy attitudes have a distinctly élitist look about them—and I am not referring to Mr Roy Jenkin's claret (why is it never burgundy?) which I do not think worries most people.

Dr. Owen, in his recent book, does have one popular theme—industrial democracy. But for the most part, the social democrats show little understanding of the need of the party on the left to respond to popular feeling. The imperious instincts of the social engineer are strong in them, whether it is in measures to destroy private education and medicine by means just short of compulsion; the contrast between their persistent indifference to public anxieties about immigration, which the government is attempting to meet in its Nationality Bill and their preference for supporting unpopular and censuring bodies such as the race relations commission; their attitude to penal questions or, of course, the Common Market.

There is also some confirmation of the élitism of the social democrats in their present tactics for launching a new party. In their advertisement for recruits today, they present a list of the "great and the good" who support them, as a bait for others. The party so born is to be created by themselves and in their own image, so to speak. They are not at all anxious to draw on the grassroots organization which already exists in the Social Democratic Alliance; and of which I wrote last week.

Indeed, far from being pleased by Lord George-Brown's sally into the lists at the head of the SDA or by the existence of the SDA's grassroots and regional organization to which they could graft themselves, the council of social democrats have even been bringing a little pressure on the SDA to wind itself up.

It almost seems that top people's social democrats do not really care for grassroots at all. Their problem is that if they really do wish to create a party in their own image from scratch, it is not at all clear that the ingredients for such a party exist in the country at large, though the country rightly admires them for their stand against the subordination of parliament to the left-dominated Labour Party.

Whether or not they succeed in getting off the ground, the warning they have given to the Labour Party in the interests of parliamentary liberty is a great public service. But their chances of building up a new party must depend on having a popular base. I do not wish to overstate the importance of the SDA. It is a pressure group just trying to give birth to a new political party and no more. But we always tend to under-rate pressure-groups until we wake up one day and find that they have changed the climate around us.

Nor do I wish to dispute the suspicion of many parliamentary social democrats that some in the leadership of the SDA have ceased to be social democratic in any sense that they understand and are more concerned simply to wreck the Labour Party. Nevertheless, the grassroots of the SDA represent something valid in the Labour tradition and it will be a disadvantage for the Council of Social Democrats if they show themselves unwilling to respond to public opinion but only anxious to tell people, from the best possible motives, what to think. If this is to be the basic approach to building a new party, and if at this early stage the various brands of social democrats are at odds with each other, I do not think that the Tories have much to fear from them—provided Mrs Thatcher does not forget that the Tories have to respond to public opinion too.

If you're Chinese, happy new year

The lanterns are hanging in Wardour Street, Soho, every home, shop and office has been given a good spring clean and all self respecting Chinese have bought peach blossoms. Today it is the Chinese New Year, beginning the year of the cockerel, and last night those who weren't serving up the lemon chicken, boiling the bean sprouts or carving the vegetables — pleasure rarely comes before business in a Chinese restaurant — were sitting around the fire at home, whiling away the last hours of the year of the monkey.

Those of us who do not work according to the lunar calendar are always a little mystified by the Chinese celebrations. Barely has the temporary brain death of our own Hogmanay worn off when the Chinese revive the idea. But the lion dancers playing hokey-cokey under a sheet, the masks, the firecrackers, the lanterns and all the other dressing up and making merry which will be seen on the streets of Soho on Sunday are only the public manifestations of a private and mostly domestic procession of rituals.

Each day has its special duties, events and food, as set down during the Sung dynasty which lasted three centuries until 1279 AD. Last night, for instance, most Chinese would eat bowls of peanuts, melon seeds and preserved fruits which symbolize good luck for the future, longevity and happiness. And they would normally eat chin duy, a mix of peanut, sesame seeds, popcorn and molasses shaped into a ball and fried.

Today is a day for the family and close friends. Everyone will dress in new clothes, to cast off the memory of the old year, and between overeating and overdrinking there will be gambling. Red packets of money will be given from parents to children and from married couples to their unmarried friends.

Tomorrow is Kainen, the proper beginning of the year, when friends are invited to lunch. It is also the traditional time for employers to give their workers the heaveho without too much embarrassment: A

New year, Soho style.

boss can either give the imminently redundant a piece of chicken or praise him for his good service over the year: both are euphemisms for the sack.

The third day of the new year is best spent indoors alone. If you meet people on this day you will squabble with them for the rest of the year. The fourth day celebrates the kitchen god who is meant to return from heaven on that day having reported on mortal behaviour of the previous year. The next celebrates the god of wealth and the earlier you get out of bed, the more you can expect. And so it goes on until the 15th day, February 12.

Soho is now the centre of the Chinese community because of the business and employment concentrated in the area. Of the 100.000 Chinese British, 80,000 live in London, yet there is no Chinatown in London any more. That used to be around the docks in Limehouse before creeping gentrification made it a more suitable site for the founding of new political parties. The Chinese have now merged themselves into the fabric of British life—no more secret sects, no more opium dens—even to the extent of putting their big new year parade off until Sunday to prevent disruption at work.

Nicholas Wapshott

LONDON DIARY

Collins wins the life of Jim

I am able to end weeks of speculation by reporting that James Callaghan (you remember him, don't you, from the dim and distant days. Before Wembley?) is to write his memoirs after all. The book, as yet untitled, will appear next year and will be serialized simultaneously in *The Sunday Times*.

Competition among publishers to secure Callaghan's signature on a contract was intense, but there was never any real doubt that the winner would be Collins, who produced his only other major literary work, *A House Divided*. Callaghan's analysis of the Northern Ireland question which appeared in 1973.

The author is currently visiting Australia until February 16, but I gather he has already started work on the project. As researcher and adviser he has enlisted the help of Bernard Donoughue, who was his senior policy adviser at Downing Street and is now at *The Economist* Intelligence Unit.

"It will be a contemplative look at his whole career, more like Butler's memoirs than Wilson's chronological account of his term of office", Donoughue told me yesterday. "But it will also look forward."

Callaghan has plenty of material to draw on, starting with his job as a trade union official in the Inland Revenue in the 1930s and proceeding through war service to a 35-year parliamentary career embracing more high offices probably than any other politician this century—Prime Minister, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary and Foreign Secretary.

Richard Ollard of Collins, who will act as editor of the book, told me that it would be "an emphatically personal memoir". Helped, no doubt, by the fact that Callaghan and Ollard first met as naval ratings in 1943.

Irish stew

Poor old Ireland is under attack from the superpowers. Last week the private thoughts of Robin Berrington, a diplomat at the American Embassy in Dublin, were unfortunately leaked to the press. He described the country as "pretty small potatoes compared with the rest of Europe" and said its climate and food were well matched—dull.

The poor man has since been recalled to Washington, but at least he said the Irish were "warm, lively human beings" compared with the "insufferable" English.

Now *The Irish Times*, which landed Berrington up to his neck in a peat bog by publishing his thoughts, is quoting chunks from a book on the country by a former Tass correspondent in Dublin, Yuri Ustimenko. He too found the people lively, spontaneous and devoid of the "ostentatious indifference" which the English often displayed.

But he was not at all enamoured of the poor service in shops, Irish newspapers, attitudes to religion, the conversational habits of the people, and the climate. Snowfalls, he said, were considered natural disasters, like earthquakes, which brought the country to a halt.

But he was especially savage about the mushrooms. Russians are absolutely potty about mushrooms, but those he found on Irish plates were soaked and tormented out of all recognition. Food, he concluded, was for the Irish not a pleasure but a severe necessity.

You might reasonably expect the natives to be huffy about such unflattering observations, but one reader's letter to *The Irish Times* has applauded Berrington's perception and suggested he be made American Ambassador.

Out of office

Inventing a new political party has its pitfalls. Dr David Owen, MP, who is rapidly emerging as the most aggressive promoter of the Council for Social Democracy—the embryo stage of the new baby—has found few friends in the overheated Norman Shaw Building, the former Scotland Yard that now serves as Commons overspill accommodation a short distance along the Embankment.

Proof of the appeal of a new centre party has been the huge volume of mail, often amounting to a thousand letters a day in Dr Owen's case, arriving

from potential supporters. Owen was being crowded out of his office, so he asked if he could have some extra space in the Shaw building.

First, he was allotted room in the research centre on the top floor of the building. Alas, his secretaries had hardly got to work with their letter openers there when complaints began to arrive from some of his erstwhile Labour colleagues not noted for their enthusiasm towards his breakaway project. They said he was interfering with the work of their research assistants, and the intruders must be removed.

Next, the authorities offered the secretaries' rest room, which is not much used. No sooner had Owen's handmaidens moved in there with their mail mountain, than the secretary of an unnamed MP felt poorly and wanted to lie down. Her condition was not alleviated by the surrounding bustle.

Another protest followed. The four extra secretaries, who are now a day behind in tackling the mail mountain, were moved back again to Dr Owen's office, where the pile of letters awaiting reply currently fills every nook and cranny. Efforts are now being made to find an office in another building.

The whole episode must be causing some wry amusement to those few MPs, among them Enoch Powell, who managed to conduct their parliamentary business with no desk, no telephone, no House of Commons secretary, and a mere cupboard in which to keep their papers.

Signs of the times. A Manpower Services Commission job-finding computer installed at 15 London Jobcentres has been declared redundant, at a saving of £3m a year. There are not enough jobs available to make it ecoomical.

Standing order

Residents of Berkshire are eagerly awaiting the first meeting of their county council in its opulent new Shire Hall at Sheinfield Park outside Reading. The new hall, to serve a county with a population of less than 700,000, is is believed to have cost substantially more than the £25m paid for European Parliament's headquarters in Strasbourg, though the actual amount has yet to be divulged. Unfortunately the architects designed the council chamber within to accommodate 76 members. Berkshire county council has 87.

It is, apparently, the fault of the Boundary Commission. They had proposed that the number of Berkshire's councillors should be reduced, but the matter is still undecided.

The county's administrators insist that everyone will find a seat when the council meets at the end of this month. It is the mirth the mistake has occasioned in the local press, they insist, that is out of place.

True, only 76 seats were provided for members, but there are 112 in the council chamber all told. Twenty are needed for chief officers and there are six beneath the dais for clerks. But normally there are no more than three clerks in attendance, so there should be two seats spare.

Other papers owned by Mr Rupert Murdoch are clearly trying to emulate the class of the one which may become his next acquisition. A Tasmanian reader wrote in the letters column of last Tuesday's edition of The Australian: *"I have just spotted my first Murdoch takeover of the season and so early in the year. Is this a record?"*

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THE ENHANCED RADIATION BOMB

The new American Administration has given notice that it will probably reverse President Carter's decision not to produce and deploy the so-called neutron bomb. Its final judgment will be influenced by the views of Nato allies, including Britain but more particularly West Germany on whose territory enhanced radiation weapons would be stationed. Three years ago President Carter won their approval, then pulled the rug from under them by deciding not to go ahead with it anyway—in the hope that the Russians might make some comparable concession on arms control. Will President Reagan be equally successful in his consultations with the allies? The answer is that he probably will. The one certainty however is that the controversy over this unpleasant concept is about to be re-awakened.

To say that the neutron "bomb" kills people while leaving buildings intact, is a gross over-simplification. Enhanced radiation shells and warheads are essentially battlefield nuclear weapons, working on the principle of nuclear fusion rather than fission, which release proportionately more of their energy in the form of radiation as opposed to blast and heat. If adopted they would complement or replace existing fission warheads on the Lance missile or would be used as artillery shells.

One advantage is that they cause less collateral damage to the surrounding area. Military proponents, who include General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR) also argue, however, that they *would* be more effective in stemming an armoured invasion because the neutrons they release can penetrate the thickest armour, killing or incapacitating the crews. Existing battlefield nuclear weapons would also rely upon radiation to stop the more distant tanks, but to be as effective as neutron warheads, would need to be ten times more powerful. As the Warsaw Pact tanks outnumber those of Nato in Central Europe by about three-to-one, a weapon which promises to "destroy" an armoured column without obliterating large tracts of West Germany in the process, has an obvious theoretical attraction.

Opposition to such weapons has been partly rational and partly instinctive, but in neither case should it be lightly dismissed. People who are bewildered by the political and military complexities of defence, find it hard to understand the need for yet another weapon of destruction. There is also an understandable revulsion against irradiating thousands of soldiers—a revulsion which is not dissimilar to that which has prompted such hostile reaction to the use of lethal gas. This reaction may be irrational, but it would be a sad world if men thought otherwise.

There is also a very real fear that the introduction of enhanced radiation weapons could lower the nuclear threshold. If the effects of a nuclear weapon could be so contained, would not the military be that much more tempted to use it in a crisis, thereby triggering a nuclear exchange which could lead ultimately to global war with intercontinental ballistic missiles? The counter argument to this is that the more credible the nuclear weapons deployed, then the more likely they are to deter a would-be aggressor. But it is important to remember that neutron warheads are essentially nuclear weapons—an "improvement" on the existing ones maybe, but still capable of wholesale slaughter, and awful consequences.

What would be the consequences of an affirmative decision by the United States? *One would probably be that the* Soviet Union would follow suit. The principle of the enhanced radiation weapon is well enough known and the Russians as well as the British, the French and the Chinese would have the capacity to develop it. The United States have overcome the engineering difficulties—which are certainly formidable. But there is no reason to think that the other nuclear powers would be defeated by them; given enough time and energy. It has been argued that the Soviets would have no need of such weapons, given their superiority in armour. It is unlikely, however, that they would resist the temptation to follow the American initiative—and perhaps outpace it, There would also no doubt be renewed effort to devise a form of protection for *the next generation of tanks*—again difficult but probably not insuperable.

What effect would it have on arms control? Would it encourage the Russians to be more forthcoming at, say, the talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions (MBFR) in Central Europe?—or perhaps to make parallel concessions in other areas? The answer is—probably not. The Russians would certainly make a great deal of propaganda out of the decision by Washington, but would not feel compelled to forfeit their conventional superiority for what they would recognize as a qualitative improvement in Nato's armoury—as opposed to a quantum jump.

All these arguments, military, political and social still need to be carefully assessed by Western capitals before they deliver their views to Washington. (Mrs Thatcher might be expected to make her own views known when she visits President Reagan later this month.) The military balance has continued to deteriorate since President Carter's 1978 decision to leave a decision on the neutron bomb in abeyance. On the other hand popular opposition to nuclear weapons has also grown in the Western democracies, in Britain, West Germany and the United States. An American decision which seemed to risk damaging still further the process of détente, would evoke strident protest which could be directed against conventional as well as nuclear forces. And to keep our conventional forces strong must remain a priority.

Is the neutron bomb worth all this? It would be premature to argue that it is not. But the arguments are not all on one side, and Nato as well as the United States alone will need to think them through very carefully rather than make a precipitate decision.

FOR FEAR OF THEIR JOBS

The water workers rejected 7.9 per cent so emphatically a few weeks ago that there must be a strong possibility that they will reject 10 per cent now. Their leaders have not recommended rejection, but they hardly need to. Many workers in the industry have in view the 13 per cent won by the miners, and see no reason why they should be content with anything less. If there is industrial action—and there would be considerable support for making a stoppage national rather than selective, with a view to getting quick results—it is not at all clear that contingency plans for keeping services going could succeed for long. The campaign is a straightforward bid for an increase well above the average, on no better ground than the knowledge of the group concerned that they are in a good position to apply pressure. Other workers who have had to settle for less will not be likely to look on favourably. A strike would not deserve to succeed.

The news is a reminder that the winter is not over yet, although it has been so quiet. The Civil Service unions are also likely to take action at some stage in support of a claim which will probably be at least 15 per cent. They are still smarting from the Government's repudiation of the former pay research system, which would (in a year of rapidly falling price and wage inflation) have won them an increase much greater than the current going rate in the private sector. A wide variety of kinds of action are open to them, some of which could be acutely inconvenient to Government without arousing the public antagonism that interference with payment of benefits might create. Pay talks in the gas industry are hovering on the verge of 10 per cent, and the power workers, whose negotiations begin in earnest today, will scarcely be satisfied with less.

But these are exceptional cases. The Government's objective of keeping public sector increases broadly in the 6 per cent range is attainable. Local authority manual workers, one of the largest and earliest groups in each year's bargaining round, have accepted 7.5 per cent. National Health Service ancillary staff have rejected 6 per cent, but do not have much prospect of pushing the rate very much higher. This year, for once, most public sector workers are negotiating without any illusions that their jobs are secure, or that they are exempt from the insecurities that threaten employment in private industry.

Single figure settlements are the rule in the private sector. Workers at British Leyland have accepted 6.8 per cent. The threat of redundancy has deeply affected expectations in all but a few kinds of employment. Last year's statistics of industrial disputes show the extent of the change: the number of strikes was smaller than in any year since 1941, the number of days lost was less than half the number lost in 1979—and three quarters of the 1980 days lost were attributable to one dispute, the steel strike.

The steelworkers now are more preoccupied with saving jobs than with pay. So are the railwaymen and the miners who settled for a figure relatively high but well below the then annual rate of inflation. The recession has caused the market for coal to contract to a point where the threat of widespread pit closures becomes imminent. British Rail intend to link their pay negotiations closely to the issue of manpower saving. Industrial action against redundancies, threatened by these three groups, might be more extensive than action directly over pay—Civil Service action, too, would at least in part be a show of strength aimed at plans for staff cuts. But the strike weapon is not easily made effective in this context.

It should not be supposed that the general decline in readiness to strike implies universal acceptance of the principle that large wage increases hasten inflation. The change has been brought about by the more immediate perception that large increases threaten jobs (though the continuing strike by seamen shows that some groups are ready even now to jeopardize their own employment for the sake of a short-term financial gain). Whether or not the drop in wage inflation justifies the human cost of an unemployment rate of 2.4 million, new pressures for higher pay must be expected automatically as soon as employment shows signs of recovery.

Charities and the law

From Mr A. R. Longley

Sir, It is not only in relation to the criminal law that a declaratory judgment procedure of the kind advocated by Mr A. T. H. Smith in his letter of January 12 would be beneficial. It is over four years since a committee, established by this council under the chairmanship of Lord Goodman, reported on *the effect of charity law and practice on voluntary organizations.*

One of the committee's main recommendations concerned the preamble to the Elizabethan statute (of which, incidentally, this year is the 380th anniversary) to which the courts still look, directly or indirectly, for guidance in charitable cases. This preamble, the committee recommended, should be replaced by guidelines couched in modern language and reflecting the numerous social, economic and legal changes over the past four centuries.

Experience gained by NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organizations) indicates that today there are a substantial number of voluntary organizations which, for technical reasons, often of an archaic character, are incapable of being charities at law and whose activities are in consequence unnecessarily hampered.

Other organizations are capable of being charities but fail to satisfy the Charity Commissioners (and the Inland Revenue) because their objects have been drawn in ignorance of some of the finer points of charity law. Many of these organizations undertake work of great value to the community both in this country and overseas. If they were to be accepted as charities, not only would the law be seen to be relevant to today's needs, but also encouragement would be given to the partnership between charities *and statutory agencies* and thus to the more pluralistic approach generally considered appropriate to contemporary social problems. Legal recognition of the Goodman guidelines would thus be a practical step in the right direction.

Practically speaking, the only ways in which substantive changes in the general law may be effected are through decisions of the courts or by legislation. But no charity trustee will lightly initiate proceedings and the present Government has indicated both in Parliament (a year ago) and to a deputation from the churches and other charities (on which NCVO was represented) headed by the Bishop of London last July that it sees no cogent case for legislation in this field.

Declaratory judgments are not unknown to English law, but their scope is circumscribed. Thus, precedent suggests that whilst the courts have a general power to make declarations (whether or not there is a specific cause of action) some particular relief must be sought, and the question raised must not be purely academic. Moreover, there is no power to interpret a statute, whether civil or criminal.

In legal terms, the procedure is comparatively recent and would seem to offer a potential for charitable cases (if not others) which could, with advantage, be explored by the Law Commission.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN R. LONGLEY,
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National Council for Voluntary Organisations,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
January 29.

Haigspeak implications

From Mr J. R. W. Thirlwell

Sir, Surely the point about "Haigspeak" (letters, January 31, February 3) is not its tinkering with *grammar*, but the ugly jargon it produces. Significantly, the worst example of this, and of how our language can effectively be destroyed, came in the Watergate tapes.

Is it really being so pure and foolish to find these trends objectionable?

Yours faithfully,
J. R. W. THIRLWELL,
76 Little Bushey Lane,
Bushey,
Hertfordshire.
February 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exerting economic pressure on Russia

From Mr Adam Fergusson, MEP for Strathclyde West (Conservative)

Sir, I hope that the intimate connexion has not been missed between Sir Richard Dobson's letter published yesterday (January 30) and Air Vice-Marshal Downey's published on January 16.

Sir Richard asks why Western (specifically, British) businessmen are back on the Moscow road looking for trade, although the Russians "are still in Afghanistan and their *worldwide political and military* posture has by no means been visibly modified".

Air Vice-Marshal Downey deplores the impoverishment of Western defences in contrast to Soviet; and observes that "the great fertility of late twentieth-century technology" means the constant updating of the entire order of battle, profoundly altering the economies of defence. Fearing that economic pressures in the West will force a relapse into relative defencelessness, he suggests that greater European political unity might at least prolong the life of "deterrence".

Greater political unity, combined with European-American cooperation of the kind the Prime Minister has just called for, could in fact do a great deal more. For what is it that permits the Soviet Union, with a military establishment at home and in East Europe far beyond the needs of defence, worldwide naval deployment, a programme of military and political subversion reaching through the Third World, and a huge army engaged in Afghanistan, to lay such enormous economic and physical burdens on her own people and satellites as normally would only be patiently borne in time of war? The Polish crisis indicates that there are limits, perhaps not far distant, to how far the people of the Soviet block will allow themselves to be pushed to support the Kremlin's grand strategy.

If it is so—as I, for one, do not doubt—that the combination of "détente", easy credits, access to Western advanced technology, and the availability of food, fodder and machinery to make up the recurrent shortfalls in Soviet production have permitted the present dangerous imbalance between Soviet military and non-military expenditure, there is an obvious remedy in our hands. Of course, it only materializes when, by acting as one in the Community, and in conjunction with the United States, we bring the economic card into play.

Our objective should be the simple one of obliging the Soviet Union so to order its affairs that it adequately caters for the peaceful, domestic, human needs of the people of the Soviet empire who prefer butter to guns.

That is not a call for trade embargoes or cultural boycotts or the like. Rather, it is a call for a consciously directed and far more refined and general control over trade, credit policy and technological exports; and its purpose would be to eliminate the dangerous advantages the Soviet block has gained in the past decade from the soft policies mistakenly encouraged by the West. (What technological innovations have accrued to *us* from *them*? Where are the beneficial terms for *our* purchases from the East? Whose industries, and whose financial systems, would better bear the strain of a sudden, fickle severance of commercial relations?)

It is a method of proceeding that might appeal, too, to the lobbies at present engaged in disparaging the policy of deterrence and demanding that defence expenditure be reduced. The idea is, indeed, to force such a reduction—on the Soviet side; and it could even lead to what, for want of a better word, might be called détente.

The alternative to much closer European cooperation, and so to the development of a positive economic policy towards the Soviet block to complement a weakening military position, is awesome. By the time we are into the coming era of high energy laser weapons, the defence hyper-inflation postulated by Air Vice-Marshall Downey will otherwise be out of hand.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ADAM FERGUSSON,
9 Addison Crescent, W14.
January 31.

Time for decision

From Mr P. J. V. Tuke

Sir, For those of us who long for a coalition of the centre, Professor Meade's letter (February 3) makes interesting reading. Proportional representation is vital because it is only when we have PR and, let us be quite clear, only when we have PR by the single transferable vote that the people of this country will *be truly enfranchised.*

But to go to the country on such a narrow platform as Professor Meade suggests would hardly command the respect of the electorate. No, what social democrats, Liberals and indeed disaffected Conservatives should be standing on is a platform on national unity. There is clear evidence of popular demand for such a move and there should be no doubt about the need. It should be possible for all concerned to agree on a manifesto on which to seek election for a fixed-term parliament, say four years.

In spite of their reluctance to join the Liberal Party, all the utterances of Shirley Williams, David Owen, *et al*, suggest many more points of agreement than of difference with the Liberals on fundamental issues. Certainly any differences are less than those which they have been accustomed to within the Labour Party.

Let them, the Liberals and similarly-minded Conservatives, answer David Steel's statesmanlike appeal of last week and agree to stand in constituencies on the basis of a review on the lines advocated by Professor Meade (paragraph 2).

We have indications that for the first time for over 40 years we have the possibility of forming a political alliance served by politicians who for once put country before party. For heaven's sake, will they stop dithering and match their words with action.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TUKE, Chairman,
Harting Liberal Association,
Mill House,
South Harting,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.
February 3.

From Mr Maxwell Adams

Sir, To disagree robustly with aspects of one's chosen political party is legitimate—even desirable. However, Labour's social democrats have surely gone beyond this and their conduct has come dangerously close to the dishonourable.

They are still using the facilities and resources of the Labour Party and indeed still sit on the national executive. Yet at the same time they are daily and publicly threatening to abandon Labour for a new or another party.

Socialists have endured their stationary exodus for long enough. The social democrats have a plain duty in honour to cease their dithering and hinting and carping. They should say now whether they are leaving or remaining with Labour. To continue their present course of loudly neither going nor staying is, *frankly, shameful.*

Yours faithfully,
MAXWELL ADAMS,
55 St Johns Walk,
St Ives,
Cornwall,
January 28.

From Mr Christopher Mayhew

Sir, What *was* the right time for social democrats to leave the Labour Party? Mr Gray (February 3) is surely going to extremes in claiming that Sir Hartley Shawcross was too late when he left the party 30 years ago. But he and other correspondents are surely right when they criticize the gang of eleven for having clung on so long.

I myself left in 1974—a gang of one—and now think that this was five years too late. While Hugh Gaitskell lived, there was always hope, and for some years after that there was still a chance of staging a successful show-down with the left. In my view the turning point came in 1968-69, with the failure of the moderates' last serious attempt, supported by over 100 ministers and backbenchers, to change the leadership.

This was the moderates' final fling and, when it failed, nothing could prevent the left, with the acquiescence of Harold Wilson and James Callaghan, from taking the party over. That was the time for social democrats to break away and ally themselves with the Liberals to fight for electoral reform against the extremes of right and left.

I note that Mr Roy Hattersley, who played an active part in the 1968-69 affair, is now declaring himself determined to stay in the party *and reform it from within. But I* remember him making precisely the same declaration 12 years ago.

If he failed then, when the moderates were still comparatively strong, what chance has he now, when the left has increased its influence in the unions and has won control of the National Executive Committee, the constituencies and the party conference?

Yours, etc,
CHRISTOPHER MAYHEW,
39 Wool Road,
Wimbledon, SW20.
February 3.

D'Oyly Carte difficulties

From Sir Harold Wilson, FRS, MP for Huyton (Labour)

Sir, Lord Elwyn-Jones's letter (January 23) made it clear that the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, like many other theatrical organisations, is in deep financial trouble, but the case of D'Oyly Carte is somewhat different. I must declare an interest as one of the trustees of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Trust, which is the governing body of the Company's operations.

It has been the policy of the Arts Council to support the provincial theatre and to take London-based productions out into the provinces to give a much wider public the chance of seeing them. No producing unit has been more dedicated to this principle than D'Oyly Carte; and D'Oyly Carte, if it is allowed to survive, will in a few years be celebrating the centenary of the introduction of this practice.

In a number of recent years the period spent in the provinces has exceeded that spent in London, though time—and money—have to be provided at intervals for the tours demanded by the American public.

The Arts Council, we understand, has a budget of some £80 million a year, and a figure of 0.4 per cent would solve the problem I have described. I am not overstating the position when I say that if help is not forthcoming there is little doubt that the D'Oyly Carte Company will have to give up touring the provinces and, in all probability, may have to close down completely.

Yours sincerely,
HAROLD WILSON,
House of Commons.
February 3.

To phrase a coin

From Mr G. Reuleaux Wuidart

Sir, May I refer you to the leaflet produced by the Decimal Currency Board in the 1960s, where the 50p piece is correctly described as a "Reuleaux polygon". The seven-sided device used for the 50p coin is one of a family of equiradial curve polygons first described by Professor Dr Franz Reuleaux (1829-1905) in Berlin.

The equiradial curve polygon occurs frequently in mechanical engineering when objects thought to be circular in cross-section are *measured accurately and found to* have a radius which is not constant. Conventional two-point measuring techniques (and vending machine coin mechanisms) cannot differentiate the changes of radius and therefore accept the polygon as a true circle.

Yours faithfully,
G. REULEAUX WUIDART,
120 Shefford Road,
Clifton,
Shefford,
Bedfordshire.

Special teaching for special gifts

From Professor Ray Wild

Sir, We provide highly selective and intensive education for very gifted musicians and ballet dancers—virtually from the cradle to the stage. Other countries go further: gymnasts, sportspeople, mathematicians, receive specialized education.

Do we do enough to identify and develop those with outstanding potential in those areas essential to our economic wellbeing—inventors, entrepreneurs, engineers, managers? Further, doesn't our hierarchial educational system actually obstruct the development of such people? For example, do our primary schools develop interests in artefacts? Do secondary schools develop creativity, and interests in business? Do undergraduate courses adequately prepare for industry? Are postgraduate courses sufficiently related to career needs? Are business schools rather remote?

Might we benefit, in the long term, from a bold experiment in special, elective education for potentially outstanding wealth creators. A vertically integrated, single-site, educational establishment for appropriate five to 25-year-olds, with appropriate arrangements for transfer in and out, might provide adequate overlap and synergy (or indeed eliminate the differences) between the four or five levels of our educational system, engender a purpose and commitment and foster an educational "concern" consistent with our present national needs.

A single such experiment would have significant direct effects and also "spin-off" benefits in the development of selection procedures, curricula, teaching methods, counselling and career guidance, teacher development, educational research, education/industry links, etc.

Even successful attempts to "fine-tune" the separate but necessarily sequential parts of our present educational system are unlikely to eliminate the numerous obstacles encountered by those very few students who themselves set out to achieve a creative career in industry and business. Such an approach will do nothing to identify, arouse and foster latent abilities and interests. A bold experiment in "special" education could have considerable benefits.

Yours sincerely,
RAY WILD,
Department of Engineering and Management Systems,
Brunel University,
Uxbridge, Middlesex.
January 29.

Sense and censorship

From Mr Tim Sainsbury, MP for Hove (Conservative)

Sir, Bernard Levin (February 3) argues against freedom of choice. It is hard to believe but, regrettably, that is what he does in his article "Censors and sensibility". The very title of the piece is misleading as I have repeatedly emphasized that the Indecent Displays (Control) Bill is not about censorship but is aimed at eliminating the public display of indecent material and giving back to people the right to choose whether or not to look at pornography.

If we leave aside the irrelevant arguments about censorship, Mr Levin objects to the Bill on two grounds; first that it includes no *definition of indecent.* I would reply that it is surely not unreasonable to rely on the judgment of magistrates and juries, who can take into account the circumstances of a particular case, rather than seek a definition that is likely to be either unnecessarily restrictive or tautological.

Secondly, he contends that unless one can prove harm it is not reasonable to create a criminal offence. I find this a very strange argument and one that has not been used against any other of the very long-standing laws about public nuisance. If we were to accept it then there could be no restraint on the public behaviour of individuals or couples as well as no restraint on public displays.

It is tempting to take issue with Mr Levin as to whether he or I has a rounder or more bespectacled face or looks more like the "swot of the remove". I prefer to rely on the *argumentum ad ignorantiam* rather than the *argumentum ad hominem* and suggest to him that, before he quietly reflects on the implications of his article, he should make some *inquiries about the extent of concern* about the widespread public display of indecent material.

Yours faithfully,
TIM SAINSBURY,
House of Commons.
February 3.

From Mr C. A. Prendergast

Sir, Bernard Levin's article today (February 3) came as a great disappointment. Whilst one cannot deny him the space to pour scorn on Timothy Sainsbury's Indecent Displays (Control) Bill, one does wonder why such a well-known gourmet as Levin expresses no regret at the disappearance of those shops that sell delicacies to amuse his palate.

Apart from the offensiveness of the displays (I prefer the offensive term to the indecent, following the Williams committee report) the proliferation of shops which offer books, magazines and "aids to loving" is changing the character of Soho.

It is sad to relate that local authorities have been denied the simplest change in our existing legislation which would stop the rot. Under planning law a shop is always a shop no matter what it sells; it is therefore easy to change the user from a greengrocer to an antique shop or a baker's to a sex shop.

The use classes order under the Town and Country Planning Acts requires amending so that there are two classes of shop: the service shop, which provides the public with necessities such as the butcher, baker, *grocer or greengrocer, and* the non-service shop, which sells other goods of a non-essential nature. There would then need to be a planning consent for change of use.

There has been a reasonable control over the siting of betting shops in shopping areas, as they are not a shop for the purposes of the legislation. Westminster City Council has on several occasions invited a change in the law to protect service shops, including the fast disappearing "corner shop", but our pleas continue to fall on deaf ears.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. PRENDERGAST,
PO Box 240,
Westminster City Hall,
Victoria Street, SW1.
February 3.

Sneaking respect

From Mr A. D. D. McCallum

Sir, Why all this verbosity: "Bowling under arm along the ground" (cricket report, February 3)? In the good old days of my youth, in the vocabulary of the real world of cricket played in the garden, or tennis courts, or on the beach, under the umpiring of nannies and governesses, such balls were succinctly and expressively described as "sneaks" or "sneakers".

And what's all this about "amendment of the laws"? Disputes used to be settled by reasoned debate, with logical arguments such as "You *did*—I *didn't*—you did", or "It was—it wasn't", and, of course, as these were the pre-pacifist days, there was in extreme cases no shortage of weaponry in the shape of stumps or bat to reinforce one's points. But the laws — mainly unwritten — remained sacrosanct.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. D. McCALLUM,
1 Church Row Cottages,
Burnham Market,
King's Lynn, Norfolk.
February 2.

The cost of dying

From Mr Arthur Greig

*Sir, As the cost of dying is offsett*able against capital transfer tax, is it not better to look forward to a bumper funeral when the time comes, in preference to storing one's coffin (January 30) in the spare bedroom for an indefinite period?

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR GREIG,
10 Connaught Road,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Ambrose Appelbe

Sir, Why do your readers worry about funeral expenses? If they give their bodies for medical use they can be buried free or have no funeral.

Yours faithfully,
AMBROSE APPELBE,
(Chairman, Anatomical Donors Association),
7 New Square, Lincolns Inn, WC2.

He who plays the king

From Mr Michael Anthony

Sir, Mr Clive Barnes is incorrect in *assorting (January 31) that Sir* John Gielgud has "dodged" playing Macbeth throughout his long and distinguished career. John Gielgud played the Thane with Gwen Ffrangcon Davis as the Lady during the early years of the war.

Though he himself admits it was not amongst his most memorable performances, it was certainly not without considerable merit.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ANTHONY,
38 Hill Street, W1.

Waiting for trial

From Mr David Roberts

Sir, There is a growing tendency to regard the untried defendant as administrative inconvenience. First, the courts, in the Nottingham justices case (report, November 7, 1980) seriously restrict the right to make bail applications; now, the Home Secretary is considering extending the period of remand in custody.

The right to be produced every eight days was a bedrock of our liberties. It guaranteed regular contact with the court and a solicitor providing opportunities for regular bail applications, advice and representation. This is fair, because the personal circumstances of the defendant and the attitude of the *police to him are changing.*

Lord Belstead (report, January 29), says the Imprisonment Temporary Provisions Act has worked fairly. My experience and that of other local practitioners is different. Unrepresented defendants, being absent, have been unable to apply for bail. Solicitors acting for absent defendants have been in great difficulty in applying for bail without their clients being present. Magistrates have quite regularly refused to make production orders for bail applications. For many people the Imprisonment Act has *been a disaster.*

If the right to regular production is removed, is it fair to leave the defendant to be visited when his solicitor finds it convenient? If the solicitor is put under a duty to visit regularly, where is the saving?

Parliament should review the Nottingham justices case and restore our liberties, not further erode them.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ROBERTS,
14 Orchard Street, Bristol.

Bear facts

From Mr Lewis Massey

Sir, As a post script to Mr John Rae's enjoyable article (January 31) about the Bear With Very Little Brain, Pooh-lovers may like to know that Warsaw is possibly the only city in the world which has a street named after him. Its Polish name in "ulica Kubusia Puchatka" and the plaque bearing the street name is embellished with the familiar *Shepard outline.*

"Kubus" ("Jimmie") is not very obvious as a rendering of "Winnie", but that was the name adopted when the Pooh books were translated into Polish before the war by Irena, sister of the eminent poet Julian Tuwim.

Yours faithfully,
LEWIS MASSEY,
20 Orchard Rise,
Groombridge,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
February 2.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 4: The Prince of Wales visited the Institute of Indian Culture, Castletown Road, London, W14 today.

This evening His Royal Highness attended an exhibition of the Daumier Collection of the Armand Hammer Foundation at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, London, W1.

The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, President of the Save the Children Fund, this morning attended a Reception to launch the new STOP Polio Film at BAFTA, 195, Piccadilly, London, W1, where Her Royal Highness was received by the Chairman of the Fund (Sir Noel Moynihan) and the Vice-Chairman, STOP Polio Board (Mr Robert Rhodes James, MP).

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 4: The Duke of Gloucester visited Dista Products Limited, Speke, Liverpool, this morning. In the afternoon His Royal Highness visited Croft School, Cantril Farm, Knowsley and later opened the first national building apprentice craft competition "skill-build" at Kirkby Municipal Buildings, Merseyside.

His Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 4: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, left Heathrow Airport, London, today in a British Airways 747 aircraft to visit Bahrain, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and Kuwait.

Lieutenant Commander Richard Buckley, RN, is in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
February 2: Princess Alexandra, patron, this afternoon visited the National Heart Hospital, Westmoreland Street, London.

In the evening, Her Royal Highness and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present at a Gala preview of "The Jazz Singer", given in aid of Motability, at the ABC cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester are to make an official three-day visit to Madrid from May 18 to 21 to coincide with the opening of a Henry Moore exhibition.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Viscount Amory, of Tiverton, will be held in St Paul's Cathedral on March 10, at 11.30 am.

Birthdays today

Lieutenant-General Sir Clarence Bird, 96; Mr Ian Findlay, 63; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, 93; Lord Gibson, 65; Professor Sir Alan Hodgkin, 67; Sir Antony Hornby, 77; Wing Commander R. A. B. Learoyd, VC, 68; Mr Frank Muir, 61; Mr John Pritchard, 60; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 77; Sir Bruce White, 96.

Christening

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Richard Cole was christened Thomas Michael by the Bishop of Ely at Croxton on Sunday.

Memorial services

Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hutton
A memorial service for Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hutton was held yesterday at St Paul's, Robert Adam Street, Westminster. Canon Harry Sutton officiated. Mr Robin B. J. Gibbon read the lesson and Mr Roger W. Ellis, Master of Marlborough College, gave an address. Among those present were:
[illegible] the Master Gunner, St James's Park), Dr H. G. Damant, Judge Murchie (chairman, council of Rossall School, also representing the president of the corporation of Rossall School), the Headmaster of Rossall School (also representing the masters and boys), Major-General A. G. Chater, Colonel B. Montgomery (Army and Navy Club), Mr Ronald Lewin, Mr Bertram White, Mr Kenneth J. Burton (Lane, Clark and Peacock with Burton and Company), Mr H. O. H. Coulson (also representing the President of the Women's Council), Brigadier J. J. Harper, Major and Mrs John Hawkins and Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Besly.

Mr M. F. Fane
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Michael Francis Fane was held yesterday at St Michael's, Chester Square. The Rev Charles Roderick officiated. The lesson was read by Captain N. F. Fane and an address was given by Mr Allan Guthrie.

University news

Cambridge
Professor Lord Adrian, MD, FRS, professor of cell physiology at Cambridge University and fellow of Churchill College, has been elected into the mastership of Pembroke College from August 1, in succession to Mr W. A. Camps.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon A. G. Catto and Miss E. S. Boyes
The engagement is announced between Alexander Gordon, second son of Lord Catto, of Houghton Hill House, Huntingdon, and Elizabeth, twin daughter of Major and Mrs T. P. Boyes, of Brookvale Cottage, Whitford, Devon.

Mr D. N. D. M. C. Kelly and Miss R. M. Macklin
The engagement is announced between Dominic, eldest son of Mr Bernard and Lady Mirabel Kelly, of 28 Carlyle Square, London, SW3, and Miranda, daughter of Mr Lance Macklin, of Alicante, Spain, and Mrs Anthony Montague Browne, of Hawkridge Cottages, Bucklebury, Berkshire.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. H. L. Aubrey-Fletcher and the Hon Penelope Verney-Cave
The engagement is announced between Edward Aubrey-Fletcher, of Binfield, Berkshire, and Penelope, daughter of Lord and Lady Braye, of Stanford Hall, Lutterworth, Leicestershire. The marriage will take place quietly in London in March.

Mr E. R. Graham-Wood and Miss S. E. Blair
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Graham-Wood, of The Old Vicarage, Cholmondeley, Cheshire, and Susan Emma, daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir Chandos and Lady Blair, of Mansefield, Greenlaw, Berwickshire.

Mr J. M. M. Hooper and Miss C. P. Esson
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs J. G. Hooper, of West Clandon, Surrey, and Carolyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs B. A. Esson, of Craigellachie, Banffshire.

Mr D. B. B. Kenning and Miss N. Dunlop
The engagement is announced between David, second son of Mr and Mrs D. B. Kenning, of Stubben Edge Hall, Ashover, Derbyshire, and Nicholette, only daughter of Dr and Mrs K. Dunlop, of Isca, Newpound Lane, Wishorough Green, Sussex.

Mr N. A. Russell and Miss C. E. Dicker
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Alexander, son of Dr and Mrs A. J. Russell, of The Beeches, Walsham le Willows, Suffolk, and Carolyn Elizabeth, daughter of Mrs Elizabeth Dicker and the late Mr Gilbert Dicker, JP, of Minack Cottage, Upton Grey, Hampshire.

Mr R. d'A. Sills and Dr S. C. J. Brown
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Sills, of Helions Bumpstead, Essex, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Brown, of Falkland, Fife.

Mr W. H. K. Simpson and Miss P. J. Davies
The engagement is announced between William, only son of Group Captain W. B. S. Simpson, RAF (Retd), and Mrs Simpson, of Le Petit Manoir, St John, Jersey, Channel Islands, and Pippa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A. V. Davies, of Dial Post Farm House, Rusper, West Sussex.

Mr H. J. Tyler and Miss S. Haliotou
The marriage arranged between Hugo James, son of Air Commodore and Mrs P. G. Tyler, of 1 Layer Gardens, London, W3, and Sylvana, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nikolas Haliotou, of Athens, will take place in Symi, Greece, in August.

Marriage

Mr T. Troubridge and Mrs P. Forgan
The marriage took place on Friday, January 30, 1981, in Southampton, Long Island, United States, between Mr Tom Troubridge and Mrs Petronella Forgan.

GLC proposal for archaeology rescue service

By Cyril Bainbridge

The Greater London Council is to consult all London borough councils on a proposal to set up a new London archaeological body that would provide an overall rescue service for London. It would unite all the present independent bodies in a single service and improve arrangements for recording site details and storing finds.

A report, which has been approved by the GLC historic buildings committee, says the present system suffers from poor funding arrangements, lack of career opportunities and a fragmented approach.

Mr William Bell, chairman of the committee, said yesterday that a centralized body for Greater London could work well with amateur archaeological societies, retaining the advantages of local knowledge, and its size would raise the status of urban archaeology.

The proposal is to be discussed with all London borough councils to assess support.

£250.000 winner

This month's winning £250,000 Premium Savings Bond is number 9YW 595617. The winner comes from Cleveland.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

Canterbury Cathedral's largest bell, Great St Dunstan, weighing three and a half tons, cast in 1762, being lowered yesterday for repairs.

Luncheons

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
The Prince of Wales was entertained at luncheon yesterday by Mr M. A. S. Dolai, chairman, and members of the executive committee of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan at 4a Castletown Road, West Kensington.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, entertained at luncheon at the college yesterday the Hon Jacob Rothschild, Mr Trevor Chinn, Mr J. L. Vincent and Professor P. A. Bramley.

West Africa Committee
The West Africa Committee gave a luncheon in honour of the High Commissioner for Ghana at the Selfridge Hotel yesterday. Mr E. C. Judd, chairman, presided.

Reception

Australian First Fleet Reenactment Committee
Mr Keith Speed, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Royal Navy, was guest of honour at a reception given in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr John Page, MP, chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, at which plans for the Australian First Fleet Reenactment were described by Mr J. King, honorary director. The principal guests included:
The Deputy High Commissioner for Australia, the Agent General for New South Wales, Mr Philip Annis, Mr Gordon Bagier, MP, Sir Ronald Bell, MP, Mr Peter Cobb, Mr Ian Kennedy, Mr Francis Perkins, Captain Peter Stowe, RN, Lord Shackleton, Brigadier John Simpson, Mr Colin Small, Captain George Thurston and Mr T. E. Utley.

Dinners

Life Offices' Association
The Life Offices' Association held a dinner party at Aldermary House last night to mark the election of the association's new chairman, Mr E. Wynn Owen. The principal guest was Mr C. W. McMahon, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, and other guests included:
[illegible]

Chartered Institution of Building Services
Mr Frank Chappell, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, was the principal guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Chartered Institution of Building Services, held at Grosvenor House yesterday. Mr David A. Russell, president of the institution, presided and Professor Edmund Happold, of Bath University, also spoke.

Memorial Society of Great Britain
Mr Robert Smith, chairman, entertained the committee of the Memorial Society of Great Britain at dinner at the Carlton Club last night. Those present were:
Lord Sudeley, Mr Colin Cole, Carter King of Arms, Mr Desmond de Silva, Mr Michael Farrow and Mr Cecil Humphery-Smith.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Gloucester, as patron, opens conference to mark first decade of Action on Smoking and Health, Royal College of Physicians, 10.45; attends college's dinner, 7.40.

Talks: "Botanical information today", by Sylvia FitzGerald, Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, 6; "Neutrons and crystals", by Professor William Cochran, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 7.30; "Personnel management in the United Kingdom: An urgent case for treatment?" by Professor Keith Thurley, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, 5; English satirists: Hogarth and Gillray, National Gallery, 1.

Exhibition: Photographs by Walker Evans, Royal Photographic Society, Bath, 10 to 6.

Walks: City of London, meet St Paul's station, 11; royal London, meet Green Park station, 11; riverside history, meet Westminster station, 2; fortress to bank, meet Tower Hill station, 2.

Memorial services: Mr Murray Macdonald, St Paul's, Covent Garden, noon; Sir Jules Thorn, Temple Church, 4.45.

Magazine appeal launched

By David Nicholson-Lord

A group of writers and artists have launched an appeal to save the London Magazine, the arts and literary monthly threatened with extinction by a £7,000 bill for legal costs.

The magazine, which already relies for survival on an Arts Council grant of nearly half, faces the bill after a libel action over a review of a collection of Tennessee Williams's letters. Without extra funds, it will probably cease publication in the early summer.

The magazine was founded in 1954 but it has a lineage from the eighteenth century, and it is highly regarded for its combination of new and established original writing and wide coverage of the arts. It has a high reputation abroad, where three-quarters of its 4,000 circulation is.

Mr Roy Fuller, the poet and a former professor of poetry at Oxford, said its disappearance would leave a gap that could not be filled. "Nobody would start anything like it again. It is one of those British institutions which deserves to be much better known", he said.

Other artists hoping to save the magazine include Sir John Betjeman, the poet laureate, Mr Harold Pinter, the playwright, Mr Stephen Spender, the poet, and Mr Victor Pasmore, the painter. The group has set a target of £10,000 and is also calling for new subscriptions.

Two former *London Magazines* flourished in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, with Lamb, Hazlitt and De Quincey among their contributors. The present magazine was founded by Mr John Lehmann and had poems by Louis Macneice and William Plomer in its first number. It has been edited since 1961 by Mr Alan Ross.

The address for donations, payable to "Friends of the *London Magazine*", is: National Westminster Bank, 186 Brompton Road, London, SW3.

Protected marine nature reserves proposed

By Our Planning Reporter

Proposals for establishing statutorily protected marine nature reserves have been put forward by the Department of the Environment.

The Government has been criticized for not including provision for such reserves in the Wildlife and Countryside Bill, which is now at committee stage in the House of Lords. It has replied that the issues are more complex than they at first appeared and that further discussions are needed.

The consultation paper observes that it is illogical that conservation should end at the low water mark, especialy in view of the interdependence of marine and land-based ecosystems.

While it was unlikely that any British marine species as a whole was threatened with extinction, the Nature Conservancy Council had established that certain local marine populations were already depleted or had been eliminated.

Public interest in marine conservation was growing, and there was concern that not enough was being done. Britain appeared to be in danger of lagging behind many other nations, including some within the EEC.

The sort of activities that might need to be controlled included surface or underwater access, certain kinds of fishing, sport and recreation, building operations, the removal or depositing of materials and other practices that might damage the seabed.

Watercolour's estimate out by factor of ten

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's found its estimate wrong by a factor of 10 when Frost and Reed paid £2,400 yesterday for a watercolour portrait of a "Lady in black" by Sir Alfred Munnings. The published estimate was £200 to £400.

A Munnings painting normally needs at least one horse to be included for the price to go that far. Watercolours are in general much cheaper than oils. Black is also not normally popular. However, thsi lady has a plunging neckline, a saucy smile and pompoms decorating her pointed carnival hat and dress.

The other high prices in the sale were more in line with expectations but this very British market appears to remain quite buoyant: there was a total of £62,521 with 10 per cent unsold.

A portrait of the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, painted before her marriage by John St Helier Lander, was secured by an anonymous bidder for £1,600 (estimate £500 to £1,000), and a nice "Locomotive in the engine shed", by David Shepherd, sold for £1,200 (estimate £600 to £1,000) to an anonymous admirer of the steam era.

Tow other areas of the art market have put up a strong showing. A Sotheby sale of moderngraphics in Los Angeles on Tuesday made £132,520, with only 4 per cent unsold. Printed books at Christie's in London yesterday made £52,095, with 4 per cent unsold.

The top price in Los Angeles was $8,500 (estimate £9,000 to £10,500), or £3,541, for a good impression of Toulouse-Lautrec's "Divan Japonais". At Christie's Lyons paid £1,200 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) for the catalogue of the famous Eumorphopoulos collection of Oriental ceramics in six volumes. Burdon paid the same price (estimate £1,500 to £2,000) for 160 copies of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, dating between 1731 and 1845.

Young musical applicants

By Our Music Reporter

The number of groups applying for this year's National Festival of Music for Youth, from July 15 to 18 at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon, has risen to more than 600 from last year's figure of 510.

More than 20,000 young players will be hoping to take part. This year the performance side of music education will be emphasized by an increase in the number of classes presented as public concerts.

New events will include Voices in Concert, Juniors at the National Festival, and Youth Orchestras in Concert. Regional auditions for the festival will be taking place in March and April.

It is being sponsored by the Association of Music Industries, *The Times Educational Supplement*, Commercial Union Assurance, the Electronic Organ Distributors' Association and the Schools Prom.

Latest wills

Residue of £144,395 left to RSPCA

Phyllis Doreen Sercombe Long, of Bath, left estate valued at £149,395 net. After a personal bequest of £5,000 she left the residue to the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Mr Harry Dransfield, of Leeds, company director, left £841,603 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Allen, Mr Leonard, of Oxford, motor dealer £220,671
Dyke, Mr Joseph Leslie, of Huxley, Cheshire, intestate .. £218,918
Fenwick, Mrs Frances Edith Pole, of Addington, Surrey .. £162,536
Keigwin, Mrs Catharine Augusta, of Kensington £249,328
Knighton-Hammond, Mrs Olive Iris Zatzic, of Bridport .. £176,674
Macdonald, Mr George Sturrock, of Dorking £328,750
McKinley, Mrs Daireen Eva Leifchild, of Pevensey Bay .. £278,320
Moy, Mr Eric Thomas, of Dedham £218,147
Spencer, Mr Charles Edward, of West Wickham, Kent .. £208,358
£208,358
Wallas, Mr Thomas, of Seaford £155,491

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, February 4, 1956

On the outskirts of London the metropolitan green belt is at last beginning to emerge as a reality from the cocoon of plans in which it has been wrapped for many years. Between the suburban fringe and the towns in the Home Counties, around the massive new housing estates, and in among the fingers of ribbon development there are wedges, strips and in some stretches broad sweeps like the North Downs of predominantly rural land forming a continuous ring which is being saved from being built over. This belt, varying in width from five to 10 miles, consists of farmland, woods, commons, downs, beauty spots, nature reserves, riversides, playing fields, golf courses and parkland where, with defined rights of way giving access to most of the land, people can enjoy their sports and pastimes in the spaciousness and tranquility of the countryside.

Science report

Agriculture: Fireflies to the rescue

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

Fireflies, hitherto regarded by most people as decorative accessories to verse, have come into their own.

The small flash of light produced by an extract from the tails of fireflies is being used by scientists at Leeds University to detect the presence of live eelworm eggs, a deadly enemy of potato crops.

They hope that their newly devised test will help to cut the £30m losses the eelworm costs British potato growers every year.

Dr Howard Atkinson, lecturer in agricultural zoology at Leeds, who has played an important role in the development of the new eelworm test, explained that eelworms live in the soil between potato crops, the females having used their bodies in a last act of self-sacrifice to form a cyst enfolding the eggs.

Existing tests involve opening the cysts under a microscope, counting the number of eggs present and deciding which contain live eelworms. That is a difficult method, even with trained operators. Tre eggs are activated by a chemical given off from potato roots and hatch.

The new system consists of taking the cysts, making a mash of them and measuring the adenosine triphosphate (ATP) in the mash. ATP is the short-term energy store of all living cells and each live eelworm contains the same amount. Dead eelworms do not have the energy store.

The mash is put into a light-proof box and mixed with the bioluminescent enzyme system present in the tails of fireflies, which produces a reaction in the form of a flash of light too small to be measured by the eye.

The magnitude of the flash is proportional to the amount of APT in the mash and is detected by a light-measuring device and then converted through a calculator to provide an accurate estimate of the number of live eggs present in each gramme of soil in an infected field. Dr Atkinson says there may be as many as ten million eelworms to the acre.

The extract from fireflies' tails is imported from a chemical company in the United States.

Eelworms damage the root system of potatoes so that crops are lighter and potatoes are smaller. Dr Atkinson said yesterday: "Although the new test in itself makes no difference to eelworm control techniques, its speed, accuracy and inexpensiveness will undoubtedly help to maximize potato crops by pinpointing those fields which are safe for cropping."

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR J. A. W. BENNETT
Studies in medieval literature

Professor Jack Arthur Walter Bennett, FBA, Professor of Medieval and Renaissance English in the University of Cambridge, 1964-1978 died in Los Angeles on January 29. He was 69.

His death robs the country of one of its most distinguished literary medievalists.

He was born on February 28, 1911 in Auckland, New Zealand. After taking his first degree in 1933, he left New Zealand to read English at Merton College, Oxford. Two years later, with a First Class and a Harmsworth Senior Scholarship, he began work on his D.Phil. His thesis on Anglo-Saxon studies in the seventeenth century characteristically made him master of two fields at once, and he was to remain as interested in Jacobean and Caroline literature as in Old English.

From 1938 to 1946 he was Research Fellow at The Queen's College, Oxford; this in fact included five years' intelligence work in the United States. (It was probably at this time that he began to acquire his wide knowledge of American literature—another of his many sidelines.) In 1947 he became a Fellow and Tutor of Magdalen College. He thus became a colleague and friend of C. S. Lewis, whom he was to succeed in the Cambridge Chair of Medieval and Renaissance English—of which Lewis was the first incumbent. He remained at Magdalen until his appointment to the Chair in 1964, when he became a Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

Jack Bennett's vigour and subtlety of mind and the range and discrimination of his reading made him a true example of "the humane medievalist" (to quote the title of his Cambridge inaugural lecture). As a college tutor he stimulated by refusing either to make difficult matters deceptively easy or to hand over ready-made opinions. What he did help to convey was the inexhaustible wealth of the past; and for an undergraduate it could be a memorable experience to hear him enlarge on an author who was especially sympathetic to him: Langland (pre-eminently), ... but also Malory, Gavin Douglas, and George Herbert.

He was perhaps at his best with those research students who were capable of responding to his allusive style of teaching and were willing to follow up his suggestions. He was not a friend to "research" as it is often conducted in today's academic world (he once delivered a broadcast talk called The Incubus of Research) but he was in fact devoted to it when it justified itself as a humane process of education, and for him this meant giving a great deal of one's time to wide, disinterested, and even desultory, reading for its own sake.

He took over the editorship of *Medium AEvum* from its first editor C. T. Onions (another distinguished Magdalen meadievalist) and gave time to it which some of his friends would have preferred him to keep for his own work. Among the literary texts that he edited were *The Poems of Richard Corbett*, *Religious Pieces in Verse and Prose*, *Chaucer's Knight's Tale* and a selection of Gower; he was also co-editor of a standard text-book, *Early Middle English Verse and Prose*. Probably his finest achievements were his two full-length studies, *The Parlement of Foules* (1957) and *Chaucer's Book of Fame* (1965). Both are works of superbly authentic scholarship which illuminate far more than the poems which are their immediate subject. He was made FBA in 1971.

Jack Bennett found the Cambridge scene in many ways a baffling one. Since as a Professor he was precluded from teaching undergraduates, his ever-deepening scholarship was never in close touch with their needs. But their loss was others' gain. The select audience who heard his special lectures on topics dear to his heart, such as Edward Gibbon, Carlyle's *Past and Present* and "Casaubon to Mr Casaubon" are never likely to forget their subtlety, elegance, range and intellectual vigour. His influence on Cambridge English was most fruitfully that of a dedicated scholar who was also a man of huge learning. One of his most delightful books came from these years, *Chaucer at Oxford and Cambridge* (1974), based on his Alexander Lectures at the University of Toronto.

He and his second wife, née Gwyneth Nicholas, whom he married in 1951, were devout Roman Catholics, and one of the unfashionable causes to which he gave his staunch support was the retention of the Latin Mass. The courage with which he helped her in her last illness was only equalled by the courage he showed in his own remitting struggle against continual ill-health. He did not have the temperament, nor could he spare the time, to be an invalid. There was always work to be done.

His wife died in March 1980. He leaves two sons.

PROFESSOR G. D. PEGRUM

Professor Geoffrey David Pegrum, *Professor of Haematology* at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, died on December 25 at the early age of 49.

Geoffrey Pegrum graduated in medicine at Charing Cross Hospital in 1955. After various house appointments he joined the RAF, serving mainly in the Middle East. He returned to Charing Cross and trained in pathology; he specialized in haematology in which he became Senior Lecturer and Consultant in 1963, having obtained his MD two years later.

At this time the laboratories in the new medical school were being planned and Pegrum played a large part in this important enterprise. The move to the new hospital came about in 1973 when the title of Reader was conferred upon him. During the next few years Pegrum built up the haemato- variety of topics; he also served on many committees in- logy service at the new hospital and engaged in research of a cluding the District Management Team, in which he was the much valued medical staff representative from 1974 to 1978.

His clinical and research interests were wide as is attested by the volume and variety of his contributions to the professional literature. He was joint author of the book *The Basis of Clinical Diagnosis*. Perhaps his chief interest was the study of myeloproliferative disorders; another important contribution he made to the hospital service was the institution of chromosome tissue typing.

In 1978 Pegrum was appointed to the vacant Chair in Haematology at the Westminster Medical School. However, ill health obliged him to relinquish this appointment and he was put in full charge of the department at Charing Cross with the personal title of Professor. In the same year he was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists and of the Royal College of Physicians.

Dr Pegrum was a well respected and popular figure with his patients, colleagues and students. He was an effective teacher in his subject. Before illness prevented him he was an active sportsman and took a keen interest in furthering student activities in this as in other fields. He had a forthright, vigorous and most attractively open personality and these characteristics did not desert him as his condition deteriorated.

Eventually he had to undergo periods of active treatment in hospital but he continued to work from his hospital bed. When it was suggested that he might legitimately give himself an easier time he would assert, with great fortitude and unflagging enthusiasm, his determination to carry on at full stretch as long as he could. In fact he did so until a few days before his death. His last few months, when he continued to work hard though he was visibly suffering, were nothing short of heroic.

Pegrum was married to Dr Doreen Rothman who had been a fellow student and she survives him with a son and daughter. The family was close knit and affectionate, and their solicitude and careful nursing were of the greatest support as the end approached.

SIR RICHARD BROOKE

Sir Richard Brooke, Bt, died on February 1 at the age of 92.

The son of Sir Richard Marcus Brooke, eighth baronet, he was born on August 8, 1888, and educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He had held a commission in the Scots Guards and succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his father in 1920. He sat on Worcestershire County Council from 1928 to 1946 and was High Sheriff of the county in 1931. He had also been a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy Lieutenant.

As a local steward, racehorse owner and breeder at his Abberley stud he maintained a life long interest in the turf. Among the stables to which he sent his horses were those of Willie Jarvis, King George V's Newmarket trainer, Paddy Prendergast in Ireland and Miss Norah Wilmot in Berkshire. He was an expert judge of yearlings and two of the best horses to carry his black and flame colours were King Salmon and Alcaeus. Both were picked up cheaply in the sales ring.

The former, bred by Lord Carnarvon, won him £13,700, a tidy sum in those distant days, and in doing so caused the racing sensation of the year when he beat the Derby winner Windsor Lad in the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park—a success which was scored in record time for the course. Alcaeus cost only 2,100 guineas and won him the Dee Stakes and Ormonde Stakes, both run at Chester. Further fame and profit narrowly passed him by when he finished second in both the English and Irish Derbys.

Peterborough, Good Brandy and Lucy Lufton were among the many horses he bred and National Hunt racegoers will not easily forget Wild Honey who went on winning races until the ripe age of 17.

He married in 1912 Marian Dorothea, daughter of A. C. Innes, MP. They had a son and a daughter. His wife died in 1965 and he married secondly Kathleen Enda, daughter of Francis Gildea. He is succeeded by his son, Mr Richard Neville Brooke.

MR LOVAT FRASER

T.C.R. writes:

Mr Hugo Simon Lovat Fraser, general manager of the Old Vic 1947-48, and general manager to Laurence Olivier Productions during the St James's Theatre seasons 1949-54, died on January 7, in London. He was 72.

Born in Lanarkshire in 1908, he was educated at the Glasgow Academy, the Warriston Moffat preparatory school (where he first met Stewart Cruickshank) and at Sedbergh. He played rugger for Glasgow Academicals and his love and knowledgeable interest in all sports remained throughout his life.

His first taste of theatre was with the famed Donald family at Her Majesty's in Aberdeen. It was a topic he would cheerfully skim across, but in fact he starred as an actor. No doubt it wasn't long before he saw he was better suited to managership and indeed was soon installed in the field at the Perth company. His strong ties with the Cruickshank family continued and in 1938 he became manager to Howard and Wyndham for their repertory seasons at the Lyceum, Edinburgh and the Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

War intervened, and he served with the Royal Artillery from 1939-1945.

After demobilization, he was appointed manager of the Company of Four at the Lyric, Hammersmith, remaining there until 1947, when he took the post of general manager of the Old Vic Theatre company. Thus began, the richest and most potent sequences of his career—an association with and unswervable affection for Laurence Olivier and Vivien Leigh.

In 1949, after touring Australia with the Oliviers, a tour which embraced *School for Scandal* and *Richard III*, he became general manager of Laurence Olivier Production at the St James's Theatre seasons, managing the Olivier presentations there, at various other West End theatres, and also, in New York City, the classic double of *Anthony and Cleopatra* and *Caesar and Cleopatra*.

Back in London he continued with Olivier at the St James's until its closure and demolition in 1954. Later during the 1950s he was to become general manager and administrator of the New Shakespeare Company at the Royal Court, Liverpool.

One primary preoccupation of his retirement years was the compiling of the history of Laurence Olivier's early days, and although in essence he completed the task, he remained unconvinced of his penmanship and permitted it to lie in manuscript form.

For those who came to know him, Lovat Fraser was easily loved—unstinting of himself, he gave advice and practical help, with sympathy and understanding, to his many friends in all walks of life. He possessed and embodied the rich style of the theatre and manners fast dwindling, and was immersed in theatre history, full of anecdotes and tales and of good cheer.

His anecdote which made him merriest in the telling, was the often recurring opener of the late Sir Donald Wolfit when greeting him at the small bar in Rules.

"Mornin' Lovot — How's Oliviah? — a perommissin octor"

MR W. M. DAVIES

D. B. D. writes:

The death occurred on January 25 of William Morley Davies in his 87th year.

During his lifetime Morley Davies played a major role in the application of science to agriculture. After postgraduate research in soil science at Cambridge University, his first appointment was as agricultural chemist at Harper Adams College, Shropshire. During this period he pioneered both the introduction and agricultural application of soil survey in Britain, and the identification and control of certain trace elements deficiencies in agricultural crops.

At the end of the Second World War when the National Agricultural Advisory Service was formed Morley Davies was appointed the first Regional Director in the East Midlands and guided the early development of the service in that area. While in the East Midlands he developed a wide understanding of the techniques for restoring mineral workings to agricultural production—an interest which he developed into his retirement. In 1949 he succeeded Sir William Slater as the Chief Science Specialist of the advisory service and secretary of the Agricultural Improvement Council. It was during this period that he served as president of the British Soil Science Society.

He returned to his native Shropshire on retirement in 1960 and turned his remarkable energy and enthusiasm to a range of activities. They included a thorough examination of fuel ash as a substitute for soil during ten years as a consultant to the CEGB and preservation of the countryside as founder chairman on the Shropshire Conservation Trust and chairman of the Severn Valley Field Club.

He is survived by his wife Iliffe and their three children.

SIR ANDREW SHONFIELD

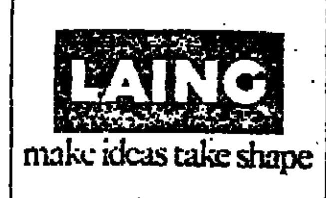
Shirley Williams writes:

I knew Andrew Shonfield as a colleague on the *Financial Times*, and as a friend subsequently. He had, as other friends have said, a mind that illuminated the obscure and confusing areas of society like a searchlight. But his was not only the clarity of light. His energetic and life-loving personality fired others with warmth and vigour. It was the combination that was so rare. Hiss loss leaves us all impoverished.

PROFESSOR EMIL LEHMANN

Professor Emil Lehmann, Emeritus Professor of Mineralogy and Petrography in the University of Giessen, Germany, died recently in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in his 100th year.

He was a petrologist who had made a special study of the lamprophyric rocks, including those of south-western Britain, and their comparison with continental European types, and to the end of his life remained an active contributor to international petrological discussions.



THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Channel tunnel still on the drawing-board, page 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 478.9, up 2.3
FT Gilts 69.47, up 0.08

Sterling
$2.3575, up 60 pts
Index 104.1, down 0.1

Dollar
Index 98.6, down 0.9
DM2.1122, down 218 pts

Gold
$505.50, up $17

Money
3 mth sterling 13[illegible]-13[illegible]
3 mth Euro $ 17[illegible]-16[illegible]
6 mth Euro $ 16[illegible]-16[illegible]

IN BRIEF

Revised borrowing limits for state groups

The Government has announced new borrowing limits for the National Enterprise Board, BL and Rolls-Royce. Presenting these to the Commons as amendments to the Industry Bill, Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State for Industry, said that in view of the disposal of its assets, the limit for the NEB was being reduced to £750m.

Other amendments increased the Secretary of State's borrowing limit to £4,400m with the power to increase that by order to £5,250m. Of that sum, £2,900m related to BL and could be increased by order to £3,250m. The limit for Rolls-Royce was £1,500m, increasable by order to £2,000m.

Mr Tebbit said that the figures in the Amendments to the Bill were much larger than the £990m needed by BL over the next two years, and which were accepted and announced to the House last month by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State. This was because the sums also covered external lending from private sources.

Goods origin ruling

Government orders now require an indication of country of origin in five consumer goods sectors—textiles, clothing, footwear, cutlery and domestic electrical appliances.

Business Diary, page 19

Shoe group rescued

Norvic Securities, the Norwich-based shoe manufacturer, has been saved from receivership by Barclays Bank which yesterday agreed to lend the group a further £750,000. If the money had not been raised, receivers would have been appointed tomorrow.

Financial News, page 20

Less energy used

Energy consumption in the United Kingdom dropped 7.4 per cent last year, in line with the estimated fall throughout the 21 member countries of the International Energy Agency. It was the first fall in energy consumption in Britain since 1975.

Japan car exports

After two days of talks in Lisbon, Japanese car makers have agreed to be "even more prudent" in their exports to the United Kingdom.

Kuwait stake

Kuwait has bought a further 525,000 shares worth £1.6m in General Accident Fire and Life Assurance. Kuwait now holds 10 per cent of General Accident.

GKN redundancies

GKN, the largest employer at Telford, Shropshire, is expected to announce 1,000 redundancies, a quarter of the workforce, at Hadley Castle today.

£5m for MG site

Standard Life Assurance has paid just over £5m for the 42-acre site of the former G factory at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, which it intends to develop as an industrial estate.

Wall Street steady

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 0.60 point up to 941.98. The $-SDR was 1.24034. The £ was 0.527468.

Government may have ruled out cash support for Duport steel group

By Peter Hill and Philip Robinson

Duport, the troubled Midlands steel and engineering group, is expected to make an announcement on the future of its steelmaking operations later today.

Senior executives of the company were engaged in discussions yesterday after a meeting earlier this week between Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, and Mr Eric Sayers, Duport's chairman.

It appears, however, that Sir Keith was unable to offer any hope of the Government providing funds to enable the company to ride out the present crisis, and that Duport was made aware of the Government's anxiety to make positive progress on the so called "Phoenix project".

This involves a two-part rationalization of the areas of overlap between the public and private sectors of the steel industry. The first "Phoenix", which is well advanced, involves the formation of a joint venture company between the BSC and GKN, embracing their steel billet, bar and rod production.

"Phoenix two" embraces engineering steels, where overcapacity is extensive and in which the BSC, Duport, and other private sector companies would be involved.

Yesterday's discussions in London are understood to have involved talks with executives of the British Steel Corporation and Lazard Brothers, the merchant bankers retained by BSC to advise the corporation in its discussions on plans for the rationalization of the industry.

The company's statement is expected to centre on the future of the modern electric steelmaking plant at Llanelli in south Wales, developed at a cost of about £23m, which is considered to be the main factor behind heavy losses sustained by the company.

After first half losses of £4.5m last year, City estimates suggest that Duport's second half losses could amount to between £10m and £12m.

Mr Sayers said after his hour-long meeting with Sir Keith on Tuesday night that the company expected to make a statement on its future the next day.

But he said yesterday: "There have been certain developments since last night which have caused us to defer the issuing of a statement until Thursday." He refused to elaborate on the nature of those developments or to say whether the statement could be regarded as encouraging.

The Bank of England is known to have withdrawn from the mediating role it was playing as late as last week in attempts to resolve the company's difficulties.

The Bank's withdrawal from the talks is understood to have been prompted by the fact that Duport was in more direct discussions with the people who might provide a solution to its problems.

The Midland Bank, the company's principal banker, confirmed last night that it had held no meeting with Duport directors at any time yesterday, although it has been in close contact over the past few weeks.

British Steel is anxious to pursue the rationalization of the overlap areas in the context of its own survival plan. The industrial logic behind its approach to "Phoenix two" appears to be that the Duport Llanelli plant lacks the type of facilities which would secure its long term future and also that its distance from major industrial markets must be considered.

The corporation's principal interest would seem to be in the plant's order book which it could take for itself.

In the Stock Market yesterday Duport's shares eased 1p to 9p where it is capitalized at £3.8m. Last week the shares halved to 7p before staging a sharp rally to 11p.

Shell stake in £30m Shotton plant

By John Huxley

Billiton (UK), a minerals subsidiary of the Royal Dutch Shell group, is to take a majority shareholding in Deeside Titanium which is building a £30m plant at Shotton, north Wales.

The move, foreshadowed in a report in *The Times* late last year means that Billiton will take a 62.5 per cent stake while Rolls-Royce, previously the sole shareholder, will retain 20 per cent. The remaining 17.5 per cent holding will be taken by IMI, the only British titanium smelter.

Deeside Titanium was originally started in 1979 by the National Enterprise Board, which subsequently transferred its holding to Rolls-Royce. It has been known for some time that private sector investors would be brought in alongside Rolls-Royce. Shell disclosed its interest in acquiring a share in the new company last March.

The new plant is being built on land near to the site abandoned by British Steel. Altogether some 6,500 steel jobs have been lost in the area.

Deeside Titanium will probably employ no more than 300 workers, although it is estimated that it will increase production of titanium sponge in the non-communist world by about 10 per cent. Output is likely to grow to 5,000 tonnes a year.

For some time it has been assumed that Rolls-Royce will be a preferential buyer for the high-grade metals produced, which will be used primarily in aircraft production.

The new plant replaces an existing facility which is due to close down. There is a worldwide shortage of titanium at present, and the Shotton plant is one of several new sources expected to come on stream over the next few years.

Bank chief's warning on windfall tax

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

In the first public response by the banks to renewed talk of a "windfall tax" on profits, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, said last night that banking profits were "already on the downward trend".

He said that, taking the business cycle as a whole, "bank profits, far from being excessive are barely adequate to maintain free capital in real terms".

Sir Jeremy, who was speaking at a bankers' dinner in Croydon, Surrey, said that the banks would need to help the economic recovery when it came. "Nobody wants unprofitable banks, least of all at this time, if we are to see our industrial customers through their troubles", he said.

Although he did not mention a windfall tax, Sir Jeremy hinted that the banks were already offering help to industry *beyond their previous expectations*.

"The troubles of our industrial customers are reflected in our bad debts", he said. "We have the same urgent need to contain costs, including salaries, and our international earnings are adversely affected by the strength of sterling".

While proclaiming monetarism to be "thoroughly welcome" at the theoretical level, Sir Jeremy said that *neither the United States* nor British monetarist experiments "appears to be working satisfactorily".

He quoted two reasons for unemployment—the absence of an incomes policy and the strength of sterling, and "the climate of opinion induced by the Prime Minister and her team, with their insistence that chronic overmanning has been a key factor in our low productivity and that now is the time to tackle it".

Speculation grows on cut in MLR today

By John Whitmore

With rising speculation this week that the Government may be about to make a further reduction in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate, the City will await 12.30 pm today with more than usual interest.

Short-term interest rates in the money markets continued to fall yesterday, with three month interbank rate slipping to 13½ per cent. There is now an increasing feeling that the main banks would not be unhappy to make a cut in their base lending rates.

In some quarters there is questioning on how much longer the Government needs to maintain MLR at all. The Bank is already conducting its open market operations through paper transactions with the discount houses rather than penal lending at MLR.

Moreover, it recently ceased to set weekly dealing rates for two and three-month Treasury Bills, and now deals at or close to the market rate on the day. Previously rates had generally borne a rather closer relationship with MLR.

City views on the likelihood of an official sanctioning of lower interest rates today are far from unanimous, however. Some operators still feel that the Government is keen to save up an interest rate cut for the Budget or shortly after it.

Sterling closed lower against continental currencies and the yen but ended the day 6 points up against the dollar at $2.3575.

Pergamon deal would give control to Mr Maxwell

£10m rescue proposal for BPC

By Richard Allen

National Westminster, the bankers of BPC the stricken printing and publishing group, will today be asked to approve a rescue package, which if successful will bring BPC under the control of Mr Robert Maxwell.

The package, which is thought to have been accepted by the BPC board would involve Pergamon Press, Mr Maxwell's private publishing group, injecting cash of possibly £10m in return for a controlling interest in BPC.

However the scheme, put together by Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank and Pergamon's advisers, depends on agreement being reached with NatWest over outstanding loans totalling more than £25m, including overdrafts of £22m.

It it understood that NatWest will be asked to consider three options: to write-off a substantial amount of the debt, to offer some form of moratorium or, most controversially, to accept conversion of debts into equity.

The deal will also require the support from BPC's shareholders and holders of about £8m of loan stock who will be asked to convert into ordinary shares.

Some form of waiver will also be required from the Takeover Panel, which has strict rules on partial bids if, as seems certain, Mr Maxwell intends to retain BPC's public quotation.

Mr Robert Maxwell: one of the City's most controversial figures.

If the deal succeeds it will have the effect of bringing one of the City's more controversial figures back into the public arena, although it is not yet clear whether Mr Maxwell intends to become chairman of BPC.

In 1973 a Department of Trade Inspectors' report of an investigation into Pergamon, which was then a publicly quoted group, said: "We regret having to conclude that, notwithstanding Mr Maxwell's acknowledged abilities and energy, he is not in our opinion a person who can be relied on to exercise proper stewardship of a publicly quoted company". Mr Maxwell has always contested the inspectors' findings.

Mr Maxwell acquired a 29.5 per cent stake in BPC, whose main interests include Sun Printers at Watford and Purnell Waterlows, partly through a stock market "dawn raid" last July. He has now produced his package after two weeks of secret talks with the directors of BPC.

It is thought that the BPC board, headed by Mr Peter Robinson, had previously been seeking alternative plans to resolve the group's crisis, assisted by Hambros, the merchant banker. But things came to a head last week when Hambros was replaced by Hill Samuel as adviser to the group.

BPC has been affected by labour disputes and general recession in the publishing world, and last year the group announced an interim loss of £6.5m. Total debts at the end of last year outstripped shareholders funds by about £4m at over £40m. Last night the group's shares eased 1p to 19p to stand 6p below par value.

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Tate delays closure of Liverpool refinery

By Michael Prest

Tate & Lyle, the sugar refiner and trader, has agreed to keep open until at least April 3 the Liverpool refinery which two weeks ago it said it would close "as soon as possible".

At a meeting on Monday the company agreed with the six unions representing the 1,600 workers threatened with the loss of their jobs, to continue talks. The change of policy comes after intense pressure from local and national interests.

The agreement is to allow further meetings between the unions and the company, and to enable the unions to make more representations to the Government. The company has agreed to give all information about the choices considered and to study the size and type of redundancy settlements.

But the chances of sugar refining continuing much longer at Liverpool seem remote. When announcing pre-tax profits of *£32.5m for last year, Tate said* that total losses attributable to the Liverpool operation were £10m. At best, only the ancillary activities such as suger distribution may be kept open.

The difficulty arises from oversupply of sugar to the British market, complicated in Tate's case by a Community regime which favours sugar beet over the sugar cane traditionally processed and shipped by Tate.

But the workers in Liverpool, where unemployment is running at 15 per cent, still face redundancy on April 22

Levy will cut profits of British Gas

By Nicholas Hirst

A Bill to intorduce a levy which will reduce the profits of the state-owned British Gas Corporation between this year and 1983 was published by the Government yesterday. But it will have no effect on gas prices.

The financial target fixed by the Government for the corporation to meet between 1980 and 1981 has been modified to take account of the effects of the levy, which will cut British Gas's published profits before interest by half.

Domestic gas tariffs will continue to rise, as planed, at a rate of 10 per cent per year greater than inflation and industrial contracts will continue to be related to the cost of alternative fuels.

In effect the levy is purely a bookkeeping change. The decision of the present Government to raise gas prices towards their long-term replacement cost by imposing a strict financial target of a return of nine per cent on assets would have meant a rapid increase in the amount of money flowing into British Gas.

This amounted to a windfall profit arising from the corporation's position as a buyer of cheap supplies on long-term contract from the North Sea.

British Gas had agreed to pay excess revenue over its requirements into the National Loans Fund on which it would receive interest payments.

So far £300m has been paid in this way. The gas levy means that this arrangement will no longer be necessary.

The Bill specifies levy rates for a period of three years, 1p per therm for 1980/81, 3p for 1981/2 and 5p for 1982/3.

Competition favoured for British Telecom

By Bill Johnstone

The report on telecommunications commissioned by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry late last year, strongly favours allowing the private sector to offer certain services in competition with British Telecom.

The report by Professor Beesley of the London Business School has been submitted to the Government and will be discussed over the coming months as its policy on private sector intervention in telecommunications is formulated.

Professor Beesley studied "value-added services" which be defined as those services not at present offered by British Telecom. However certain areas, particularly data communication, may bring the private sector into direct competition with the state corporation.

He looked in particular at the United States where many value-added services have been introduced.

During November he visited Microwave Communications, one of the leading operators of such services in the United States, where terminals to computer services, facsimile services and electronic mail systems are available.

In the United Kingdom the subject is politically sensitive. The Post Office Engineering Union, while not opposed to the provision of services not available through British Telecom, is opposed to giving independent companies carte blanche.

The union, which gave evidence to Professor Beesley, believes that a new tariff structure must be created if British Telecom is to compete.

Where private carriers are running services in competition with British Telecom on the national telecommunication network, the tariff must reflect the nature of the traffic.

It is expected that in the United Kingdom some of the most financially attractive value added services will involve carrying speech instead of data, for example a line on lease to a company for a private telephone link between cities would be able to be used by third parties in competition with the British Telecom exchange lines.

The union told Professor Beesley that it was premature to use examples from the United States as a model for this country.

New equity capital for Aerospace

Continued from page 1

the group's articles of association will prohibit foreign ownership of more than 15 per cent of the capital at any time.

British Aerospace was formed in 1977 when the Labour Government nationalized all Britain's fixed-wing airframe manufacturers. Its main components are the former Hawker Siddeley Aviation and British Aircraft Corporation, a company which had been jointly owned by Vickers and General Electric Company.

These two companies are still in dispute with the Government over the amount of compensation they should receive for the state takeover.

British Aerospace is the largest fre world aerospace manufacturer outside the United States. It employs 79,000 people and its order book is worth about £3,500m.

Current programmes include the Tornado, Jaguar, Harrier, Hawk and Nimrod aircraft on the military side, while in civil aviation it has a 20 per cent involvement as manufacturer of the wings in the European Airbus.

Its dynamics group produces Rapier, Swingfire, Sky Flash, Seawolf and other missile systems. It is a close collaborator in the European Space Agency, and a leading maker of space equipment and communications satellite systems.

The Conservatives indicated before they came to power that they would return the group to the private sector, and the plan to sell half its equity to the public was set out by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, in July 1979.

Sir Keith has now written to Sir Austin Pearce, Aerospace chairman, setting out the Government's intended relationship with the company.

He says that the Government does not intend selling any more shares in the forseeable future. In any event it intends retaining at least 25 per cent of the votes, though it does not intend to intervene in the commercial decision-making process of the company, Sir Keith says.

In support of the offer for sale, for which application lists will open on February 13, the group estimates trading profits of £92m for 1980. After launching costs and assuming the benefit of the new equity, re-stated 1980 profits before tax are put at £65m.

There is no profits forecast for 1981, though it estimates maintained profit, and intends paying an 11.143p a share gross dividend.

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Travel chain to trade in Debenhams

By Derek Harris,
Commercial Editor

Exchange Travel, Britain's third largest travel agency chain, and the centre of a tourist industry dispute over the extension of travel sales facilities away from the high street, has won its appeal to have travel counters in Debenhams stores.

The appeals committee of the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta) yesterday overturned the rejection by Abta's retail agents committee.

It is a blow for the traditional travel agents with separate high street premises who are worried at the extension of travel sales into retail establishments.

But it remains to be seen how far the appeal decision will smooth the path of a more controversial proposal by P & O to operate travel offices in the television hire shops of the Radio Rentals chain.

Abta's membership committee has turned down the P & O proposal on the grounds that it infringes Abta's restrictions on the use of mixed business premises, seen as a different issue to that involved with Exchange Travel. But talks are continuing with several Abta committees.

Mr Gordon McNally, chairman of Exchange Travel, had applied to Abta for registration of 13 of his Debenham outlets, although the number of travel counters in these stores yesterday rose to 32.

Exchange will now continue with its £2.75m plan to open 70 travel counters in Debenhams stores by next June.

Companies Bill omits 'concert parties' curb

By Philip Robinson

Changes in company law designed to tighten up on directors involved in fraud, companies which fail to file regular accounts and an increase in the powers of Department of Trade inspectors are covered in the 1981 Companies Bill, which had its first reading in the House of Lords yesterday.

But the Bill makes no mention of companies buying their own shares — expected to be introduced as an amendment during the Bill's parliamentary passage—nor any legislation on "concert parties", which had been specifically requested by the Council for the Securities Industry, the City's ultimate self-regulatory authority.

In fact, no "concert party" legislation seems likely for about two years, because of heavy pressure on parliamentary time.

Mr Reginald Eyre, Under Secretary at the Department of Trade, said they would be looking to the City's self-regulatory system to deal with this.

Wider powers are to be given to DoT inspectors, and magistrates courts will now be able to disqualify directors from taking part in the management of a company for five years, and higher courts for 15 years, to penalize those who commit fraud or other offences in relation to a company, whether or not the company is being wound up.

The Bill proposes that DoT inspectors examine people other than officers or agents of the company under oath without having to apply to the court. However, anyone has the right of appeal to the court. The inspectors will also be able to require past and present directors to produce details of their bank accounts.

The DoT will also *tighten up* on returns and accounts to Companies House. Mr Eyre said that of the 800,000 companies registered last year, 1,028 failed to file returns and 1,709 failed to file accounts. Around 588 companies and 1,058 directors were convicted and fined a total of £115,996 with £25,165 costs.

Mr Reginald Eyre: looking to the City's own system.

The Government has used the Bill—which is largely a three-tier company system to harmonize United Kingdom company law with the EEC's Fourth Directive on disclosures in company accounts — to strengthen the laws on those who fail to comply with previous company Acts.

It has been known for some time that the DoT feels that only a small proportion of directors who commit fraud are being prosecuted.

Despite strong opposition, the Bill also proposes to abolish the Registry of Business Names as part of a cost-cutting exercise. The registry, set up in 1916 when it was feared foreign aliens were setting up business in this country under English names, was a list of the owners of small businesses.

The Government intends to replace this registry with a requirement on small businesses to display owners' names in their shops and on letter headings.

In Whitehall it was felt the original law was unenforceable *and it is hoped its successor* will be a form of "self regulatory" process enforced by consumers and traders with local authorities' trading standards departments playing significant roles.

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PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Anglo Am Corp	26p to 577p	Electrolux	50p to 775p
Grootveil	44p to 339p	Kinross	39p to 530p
Leslie	16p to 110p	Minorco	17p to 535p
Peko Wallsend	15p to 410p	Marievale Con	22p to 161p
Ranger Oil	20p to 645p	Vlakfontein	27p to 215p

Falls

Arb-Latham	10p to 292p	Brit & Comm	8p to 293p
De la Rue	7p to 688p	Elson & Robbins	5p to 20p
Guthrie Corp	13p to 662p	Heath C.E.	4p to 186p
Martonair	5p to 213p	Midland	5p to 316p
Unitech	15p to 216p	Weeks Petrol	5p to 380p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.07	1.99
Austria Sch	37.10	34.90
Belgium Fr	83.25	79.25
Canada $	2.88	2.79
Denmark Kr	15.98	15.18
Finland Mkk	9.83	9.33
France Fr	11.88	11.38
Germany DM	5.18	4.94
Greece Dr	119.00	113.00
Hongkong $	12.70	12.10
Ireland Pd	1.39	1.33
Italy Lir	2490.00	2380.00
Japan Yn	503.00	477.00
Netherlands Gld	5.61	5.35
Norway Kr	13.20	12.55
Portugal Esc	133.50	127.00
South Africa Rd	2.20	2.05
Spain Pta	201.75	192.75
Sweden Kr	11.13	10.58
Switzerland Fr	4.68	4.45
USA $	2.40	2.33
Yugoslavia Dnr	88.50	83.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Output by jail inmates threatening manufacturers, Home Office told

Woodworkers close doors on prison rivals

Door makers have never enjoyed a captive market; they spent much of last year seeking to protect falling sales from cheap goods from outside Britain, principally Taiwan.

But now they find themselves having to contend with what is most definitely an "inside job", a sales challenge from a captive supplier, the inmates of Her Majesty's prisons.

The British Woodworking Federation has opened talks with the Home Office on the introducing of restrictions on woodworking products made behind locked doors.

It believes a strong case exists for a severe curtailment of wooden doors made by offenders, especially at a time when the woodworking industry is in a deep recession.

Several leading companies have declared redundancies and much of the workforce is working short-time.

The federation said that its representatives had been told that door-making activities had been severely cut during the recent prison officers' dispute. The main manufacturing unit at Kirkham open prison, in Lancashire, closed for several weeks, and the federation believes it is unlikely to resume full production for some time.

In 1979, about 8.5 million doors were bought in the United Kingdom. The 1980 figure is expected to have been considerably down on this total, which is far below peak production of around 11.5 million achieved in the early 1970s.

Woodworking leaders estimate that output from the prison units amounts to only about 110,000, but points out that this is equal to the annual output of an average-size manufacturer.

Production in Britain's jails is organized through Prindus (Prison Industries), which in 1979 had a turnover of £26.4m.

A spokesman for the prison service said last night that Prindus products, like its doors, were frequently sold into government departments.

Where they were offered on the public market prices were set at commercial levels, agreed after consultation with both industry employers' federations and the Trades Union Council. Regular talks were also held on the range of products that should be made.

The British Woodworkers Federation says that after its representations, Prindus is considering changing to alternative products which would have the minimum effect on the home manufacturing market. "The feasibility, for instance, of concentrating on products in direct competition with imported products is under consideration", an official added.

Meanwhile, a state-of-trade survey published by the industry yesterday complained that several companies emphasized the intolerable pressure of low margins in present "cut-throat competition".

John Huxley

Belgian oil subsidiary bought out by Canada

Petro-Canada, Canada's government-owned oil company, is taking over the Canadian subsidiary of Petrofina the Belgian multinational, for $Can 1,460m (£527m).

The payment works out at $Can 120 a share, compared with $Can 87.50 a share at which Petrofina Canada had been selling on the Montreal Stock Exchange.

The announcement came after days of speculation that Petrofina had become the first target of the "Canadianization" policy introduced last October by the federal government.

This would mean the takeover of "one or more" multinationals as part of a programme to make the country's petroleum industry at least 50 per cent Canadian-owned by 1990. About threequrters was owned then by foreign companies

Japanese car decline

The Japan Automobile Dealers' Association announced that new car registrations in January fell 8.6 per cent from a year before and a sharp 26.1 per cent from the previous month to 205,205 units. The association attributed the decline to the sluggish domestic economy.

Less Polish coal

Coal production in Poland, a big exporter, dropped sharply last year. Mr Stanislaw Kania, Party Leader, said in Warsaw that if coal production continued at the January level, the country could become a coal importer.

US Volkswagen sales

Sales of cars built by Volkswagen of America rose 9.0 per cent in late January to finish the month 8.5 per cent below their level in January last year, the company said.

Tokyo oil exports

Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry said yesterday it is considering allowing domestic oil companies to resume exporting heavy oil for the first time in two years.

German output down

West German industrial production fell 1.7 per cent seasonally adjusted in December, after a downward revised fall of 1.6 per cent in November, provisional figures show.

Export orders down

Japanese industrial machinery export orders fell by 14.2 per cent last year reflecting the Iran-Iraq war, adjustment by China of its modernization programme and the rise in the yen's value against the United States dollar.

Danish jobs scheme

The Social-Democratic Government of Denmark has drawn up a £225m plan to create 85,000 new jobs over the next three years and ensure that no one is unemployed for more than one year.

Belgian borrowing

The Belgian Government will be offering an interest rate of 13 per cent for the entire life of this month's eight-year road fund borrowing, financial sources said. It will, therefore be retreating only slightly from the record interest rate paid on the year's first big bond issue.

Japan-China talks

China is believed to be considering compensation to Japanese enterprises that have had their plant contracts cancelled because of a shift in China's economic priorities. Officials at the Japanese export insurance department of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said a delegation from China will visit Japan later this month for a series of meetings.

Fall in oil use

Italy's consumption of oil products in 1980 dropped 2.5 per cent to 89.92 million tonnes.

Benefits and social services important in redistribution of wealth

Bottom 20pc share 7pc of incomes

One fifth of households in Britain had only a 7 per cent share of the total income for all British households in 1979, after allowing for taxes and the receipts of benefits. This compares with a 38 per cent share for the top fifth of households. But, before taking account of taxes and benefits, the bottom fifth received only 0.5 per cent, while the top fifth of households got 45 per cent.

This is one of the main findings of a study in the latest edition of Economic Trends, published by the Central Statistical Office yesterday. It shows the importance of taxes, cash benefits and government expenditure on the main social services in redistributing income from high income to low income households. In generol, there appears to have been little change in the distribution of income between 1978 and 1979. The study, entitled "The Effects of Taxes and Benefits on Household Income", is the work of Mr Alan McIntyre.

The distribution of final income not only takes account of taxes and cash benefits, but also benefits in kind, such as education, welfare foods (mainly school meals and milk) housing subsidies, and health care. About 45 per cent of the £85,000m spent by the Government in 1979 is allocated among households. Many items of public expenditure, such as defence spending and law enforcement, cannot of course be allocated.

As might be expected, cash benefits—state pensions, and unemployment and supplementary benefits — account for a considerable slice of the incomes of the bottom groups. Households in the bottom 30 per cent of total households include many people who are retired, or sick or unemployed. These households received an average of £1,600 in cash benefits

PERCENTAGE SHARES OF TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME 1979

Percentage in each quantile group of households, re-ranked at each stage

	Original income (1)	Disposable income (2)	Final income (3)
Quintile group			
Bottom fifth	0.5	6.5	7.1
Next fifth	9	12	12
Middle fifth	19	18	18
Next fifth	27	24	24
Top fifth	45	39	38
Total:	100	100	100
Decile groups			
Bottom tenth	—	2.6	2.6
Top tenth	27	23	22
Gini coefficient (4) (per cent)	45.2	32.3	31.6

(1) Pre-tax income and unearned income.
(2) After direct taxes and cash benefits.
(3) After all taxes, and allowing for cash benefits and benefits in kind.
(4) Measures of inequality: zero equals perfect equality and 100 equals complete inequality.

during 1979, out of an average final income of £2,326. Average pretax income for these groups was only £557.

By comparison, the pre-tax income of the top 10 per cent was £14,040. This comes down to £9,860 after taxes and benefits are taken into account.

Although direct taxes on income have the effect of making incomes rather more equal between the top and bottom groups, the effects of indirect taxes is less clear. These include domestic rates net of rebates—and, for the purposes of this study, water and sewerage charges, which are also based on rateable values in most cases—taxes such as VAT and excise duties on items such as drink and tobacco.

The proportion of disposable income paid as indirect tax is shown to decline slightly in th etop income groups because these households allocated more of their income to savings, rent, mortgage interest, and insurance premiums, which attract little indirect tax.

The top groups are shown to benefit more on average from some benefits in kind, notably education. Households at smaller average number of children than those in the middle or at the top. But, generally, old people tend to use the health service much more than young people.

The concentration of retired people in households in the lowest part of the income distribution means that a high average level of health benefit is allocated to the bottom groups.

On average, households with high incomes had higher benefits in kind than households with the lowest income. But these benefits represented the highest proportions of final income for the bottom households.

None of these calculations take account of the fact that the top group of households, ranked by original income, contain more individuals on average than households in the bottom group. Neither does it make allowance for differences in household composition—number of children, whether single adult or a married couple. When households are converted into "equivalent adults" and weighed to allow for differences in composition, the bottom fifth of households are still shown to have received one per cent share of pre-tax income in 1979 but 10 per cent of final income, while the top fifth had a pre-tax share of 45 per cent and a share in final income of 34 per cent.

Melvyn Westlake

British Shipbuilders urges tough European stance against Japan

By Peter Hill

British Shipbuilders is to urge European governments to take a much tougher stand against Japan in forthcoming talks at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The state group will claim that the Japanese yards have failed to honour the spirit of an agreement they entered into five years ago with European shipbuilders to curb their export sales. BS also believes that Japan's planned increase in output in the next financial year will seriously undermine progress towards stability in the shipping and shipbuilding markets.

Behind the state corporation's pleas amid continuing pressure on European yards and the threat to jobs, is the need for Japan to be persuaded to extend the present restraint agreement and to abandon plans to lift output in the coming 12 months.

European shipbuilders managed to ensured that shipbuilding was among the sensitive areas discussed in Tokyo last week between senior officials of the EEC Commission and Japanese government representatives in talks on the growing trade imbalance between Japan and the Community. The next opportunity will come at the OECD working party discussions on shipbuilding in Paris.

Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of BS, said that he had commissioned a detailed study of the Japanese challenge which would be submitted to the Government.

Over the past five years the crisis in the European shipbuilding industry has led to the loss of nearly 100,000 jobs and under a series of Commission directives, capacity has been reduced under restructuring programmes.

The bulk of the raltionalization took place during 1976-80 after the OECD agreement. Japanese output fell by 53 per cent in year to September compared to 1976, while European output fell 56 per cent over the same period.

On the basis of OECD statistics, Japan's share of total new orders in the first nine months rose to 63 per cent of the total compared with 49 per cent the year before.

BS has also expressed concern at Japanese plans to boost output in the coming financial year. Japan's Fair Trading Commission has extended the operations of an anti-depression cartel, formed by the 39 largest shipbuilders, for a further year which could lead to 30 per cent rise in output in the coming fiscal year over the current year.

It is against this background that BS is expected to press for a further period of restraint by the Japanese industry.

Plessey call for support by Whitehall

By Bill Johnstone

Plessey has blamed its failure to secure a recent £300m contract in Iraq on the lack of government support for obtaining contracts in developing countries.

Mr Frank Chorley, deputy chairman and managing director of Plessey Electronic Systems has called for the British Government to help in providing adequate guarantees to the governments of developing countries as an aid to securing contracts.

He said the conditions of these contracts were such that no commercial operation would consider accepting such terms. He cited, in particular, the activities of the French and the ambassadorial role played abroad by the French President.

There was no comparable mechanism in Britain which would allow companies competing in such adverse commercial conditions to tender successfully. The French won the Iraq contract with the help of the French Government which was prepared to offer the proper indemnities.

The contract was to establish an electronic manufacturing complex and to assist in the staffing and production of the plant.

Talks start on Perkins stake

By Edward Townsend

Perkins Engines, the British-based diesels subsidiary of Massey Ferguson, has begun discussions to attract outside investors after the proposed £285m equity refinancing of the Canadian parent company.

The rescue of Massey by its bank creditors—dependent upon Canadian government guarantees—has opened the way for Perkins to become a separate legal and financial entity. The discussions could lead to Perkins' shares once again being quoted on the British Stock Exchange.

The company, taken over by Massey Ferguson in 1956, is one of the largest diesel engine makers in the world. Last year it made a profit before meeting redundancy liabilities. Yesterday the five millionth engine came off the Peterborough production line.

Perkins, part of Massey Ferguson Holdings in the United Kingdom, is one of the group's more attractive subsidiaries for external investors, particularly as the world market for diesel engines is expected to grow significantly towards the middle of the decade.

The company needs long term capital for engine development programmes and is considering joint ventures with other manufacturers.

Mr Jim Felker, newly-appointed American managing director. disclosed yesterday that Perkins was having "fairly serious" negotiations with one or two companies in North America.

British investment in Perkins (a joint venture with BL cannot be ruled out) would be supported by the Government. This would be consistent with the policy of encouraging investment in the private sector and as protection for a vital part of British engineering.

Foreign motor parts groups 'invading' UK

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

Overseas companies are making increasing inroads into the British motor components industry. Nearly one-third of the top 60 companies are now foreign-owned.

While leading groups such as Lucas, GKN, Associated Engineering and Automotive Products have been investing heavily in Europe and the United States to offset falling vehicle production here, foreign companies have still found the British market attractive.

A survey by the Economist Intelligence Unit identifies 13 American-owned components companies which are leading the "invasion". It says that despite the well-publicized hardships of the British motor industry, the Americans see an English-speaking country as the ideal base from which to develop business in Europe.

But this does not explain the increasing involvement of French and German companies. The most likely answer, which the survey does not mention, is that they are attempting to defend their own home markets by attacking British rivals in their backyard.

Rockwell International of Pittsburgh has shown the biggest growth with the acquisition in 1979 of Wilmott Breeden, a leading British manufacturer of door-locking and window-control systems, tipping gear, bumpers and cooling fans. Rockwell's turnover has reached £150m, pushing it from 36th to 11th place in the top-60 table.

Bendix Corporation of Southfield, Michigan, acquired the remaining half of Bendix Westinghouse from Hawker Siddeley and stepped up from 46th to 39th place. Dana Corporation of Toledo, Ohio, bought the remaining 65 per cent of Turner Manufacturing, a 69 per cent stake in Brown Brothers, and the whole of Intertruck.

The present recession has pinpointed overmanning as the one serious weakness of the United Kingdom components industry

The Changing Face of the United Kingdom Automotive Component Industry, Economist Intelligence Unit Special Report No 91.

De Lorean dispute over terms of state backing

Mr John De Lorean, the American car manufacturer, confirmed last night that a serinus dispute over financial aid has arisen between his Belfast-based company and the Government.

He said that a difference of opinion about his original financial agreement with the Government would have to be legally clarified before a planned offer of shares in his company could be made to the American public.

He did not want to go into the subject too deeply "because wet are still in the very early stages of legal discussions".

At the root of the dispute is the £14m additional aid which Mr Humphrey Atkins, Northern Ireland Secretary of State, made available last August to cover the effects of inflation since the project, originally worth £67m was launched in August 1978.

Mr De Lorean feels that the precedent established in many previous Northern Ireland projects, that extra amounts to cover inflation should be provided on the basis of the original funding, should be followed.

But the Government is understood to consider that the additional finance is a loan rather than a grant. Mr De Lorean is confident that the decision would favour him if the matter went to arbitration.

Mr De Lorean claimed he was entitled to a further loan of £8m from the Northern Ireland Development Agency under the terms of the original agreement, and unless this is received, he has said the company will withold royalty payments of £185 on every car produced.

Rather than being paid to the agency, the rayalty payments due on the early production cars are being placed in escrow until the matter is resolved.

Yesterday Mr De Lorean dismissed as "a scurrilous insinuation" suggestions that some De Lorean executives had been less than frank with their own board, the Government and the development agency itself.

The dispute may colour the Government's attitude to a requestlast month for certain assurances from two major commercial banks with mhich theco mpany is negotiating a £10m bridging loan.

This short-term finance is required to cover expenses until positive cash returns begin after the market launch of the De Lorean sportscar in the United States in May.

Suggestions that there have been serious production difficulties were dismissed by Mr De Lorean. He said that they had been no different to those encountered in the many other new car launches with which he had been involved during his career with General Motors.

Production this week is one car a day more than a recent schedule, which set a target of 210 cars in February and 630 in March. Mr De Lorean hopes for 700 cars to be distributed to his United States dealers before the market launch.

"To take a green field, build up a sensational workforce and create a plant in 28 months is an incredible achievement", he said.

Lee Cooper to manufacture jeans in eastern Europe

By John Huxley

Lee Cooper has signed a £25m licensing agreement to manufacture and market jeans in Czechoslovakia. The company, which claims to be Europe's largest maker of jeans, said yesterday it hoped to sign a similar deal with the Soviet Union soon.

The deal was struck after more than 2½ years of discussions, and is understood to be the largest textile agreement between a British company and a member of Comecon, the East European trading block.

It provides for a factory to be set up under Lee Cooper's guidance at Presov in eastern Slovakia. Apart from providing marketing and sales know-how, the British company will supply all machinery and raw materials including denim fabric, and all trimmings such as zips, rivets, buttons and thread. It will also advise on mass production techniques.

Lee Cooper hopes the plant will be operational by August, with a target of one million pairs of jeans a year.

Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of Lee Cooper Licensing Services, said that, although the agreement was intended primarily to provide jeans for the Czechoslovakian market, it was hoped that limited exports would be available for other East European countries. All jeans will carry the company's trademark, irrespective of the country in which they are sold.

Sir Richard added that the contract had been won against stiff European and American competition.

Recession has recently halted the impressive growth record of Lee Cooper, which reported a loss for the first half of last year on its home operations. Overall, interim pretax profits fell by 3 per cent to £4.32m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Building societies and savers

From Mr H. Stinson

Sir, For more than a decade now building societies have been agents for removing the assets from millions of thrifty savers and passing them across to big borrowers. Anyone who, ten years ago, lent to a building society the value of an average house, perhaps the savings of a life time, with the intention of securing some comfort in retirement, receives back today, even allowing for interest, the mere fraction of the value of a house. Those lost assets have not disappeared. They are in the pockets of building society borrowers who have paid back good, solid loans with confetti money.

How, then, as reported in *The Times* (February 2) dare Mr R. Weir accuse the Government of unfairness? The Government is right to give some small help to the elderly to preserve the value of their savings in old age.

The answer for the building societies is quite clear. They should index their loans to borrowers on ever-rising property values. This would enable savers tomorrow to receive justice as a reward for their thrift, and not the injustice of today of being robbed of a large proportion of the real value of their savings by borrowers, aided and abetted by building societies.

Yours truly,
HARRY STINSON,
Wortley,
Redcombe Lane,
Brigg,
South Humberside.
February 2.

From Mr C. G. Newman

Sir, Mr Weir, of the Building Societies Association, compleins (February 2) of "unfair" competition from the Government savings bonds. He should realize that, taking account of inflation, investors in building societies have had to be content for years with a negative return. The building societies have been an engine for transferring wealth from investors to borrowers. Perhaps the fresh competition may stimulate the building societies to devise a mortgage scheme which enables investors to participate in the growth in property values which is at present wholly retained by their borrowers.

Yours faithfully,
C. G. NEWMAN,
"Hilltop",
Northchurch Common,
Berkhamsted,
Hertfordshire, HP4 1LR.
February 2.

Design and textiles

From Mr Charles Metcalfe

Sir, Mr Ira Brown (January 26) has at last given a totally unemotional view of the 'cause of the decline in textiles". The one outstanding aid to recovery is design. Good design will give high profits but will also attract copying. British manufacturers prefer a product that never changes. Like Mr Brown I could write pages, not facts and figures but short stories on the British hate of fashion. In my opinion most textile bosses should be producing golf balls, clubs and tees, where their true interest lies. If the British textile industry would take advantage of the creative talent of the annual crop of designers produced by the college and polytechnic textile Bachelor of Arts design courses, our competitors would not have time to copy before a new product was on the market.

Those British manufacturers that visited the November Interstoff dress textile fair at Frankfurt saw the obvious superiority of the British textile college compared with similar continental institutions.

My appeal to manufacturers is to expand design studios because I can asure you that our competitors are and they are employing British-trained designers. Perhaps government should subsidize firms employing degree trained designers.

CHARLES METCALFE,
Liverpool Polytechnic,
68 Hope Street,
Liverpool, L1 9EB.

Role of the institutions

From Mr C. P. Morton

Sir, Ronald Pullen's article, "When should institutions intervene?" (January 28), comes a decade after you published my original suggestions.

Similar thoughts must have occurred to far more eminent men, the Governor of the Bank of England being the most recent, when giving the Stockton lecture a week ago.

In the hope—probably in vain—of preventing another decade from passing before a constructive move is made to arrest and reverse the country's industrial decline, may I restate the proposal:

1. Institutions should pool their voting power, to elect non-executive directors (Neds) on to the boards of companies.

2. The Neds' role would be to monitor and improve the performance of organizations and hence their fees would be met by these.

3. To avoid any suggestion of "insider trading", the Neds' contact with institutions would be by way of a statement in the annual report.

This space is unsuitable for suggesting more detailed guidelines, but these could easily be devised by the institutions or their advisers.

C. P. MORTON,
C. P. Morton & Associates,
142 Arkwrights, Harlow,
Essex CM20 3LZ.

Standard design for calendars

From Mr R. O. Leavor

Sir, May I make a plea for printers of monthly and annual calendars to adopt the same system? At present the days of the week may run across the top of the calendar or down the left hand side, or vice versa, and may begin with Sunday or Monday. This leads to confusion when changing annual calendars or when looking at differently laid out ones in a diary or on the office wall. Typewriter and calculator keyboards are standard, so should calendars be.

R. O. LEAVOR,
76 Heaton Park Drive,
Bradford,
West Yorkshire, BD9 5QE.

Comparative job security

From the Chairman of the Business Graduates Association

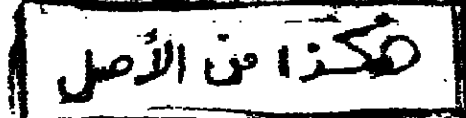
Sir, I find it astonishing in the current concern over the merits of index-linked pension schemes that the Scott committee failed to tackle a key element of its brief namely the equation of financial reward against absolute job security.

It is bad enough for those of us in the private sector who feel very strongly about the subject to have to read that the answer is apparently the Alice in Wonderland solution of extending index-linked pensions to everyone.

What is long overdue is the recognition that the private sector does work on a risk/reward basis and in times of adversity the cut-backs affect *real people and real jobs*. In the non-industrial Civil Service and local government no such threat exists where the sham of voluntary early retirement soothed by index-linked pensions ensure the beneficiaries have no interest in reducing inflation. Indeed it is no surprise that inflation in the private sector runs at around 9 per cent per annum while its public sector created counterpart is 30 per cent per annum. When the economy turns up it attracts recruits from the public sector but as of now such employees continue working in absolute safety concerned only to seek further Clegg-type rises without any of the risks that colleagues in industry and commerce run.

It is time that an independent study evaluated the real value of job security and as the Government's nominees have ducked the task I am sure there are many others who would be only too willing to take it on in the national interest.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. THOM,
Chairman,
The Business Graduates Association Limited,
87 Jermyn Street,
London SW1Y 6JD.



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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Tight terms for BAe

The raw nerve in the flotation of British Aerospace was obviously going to be its civil aviation business, specifically the huge development programme going forward on the wings for the A310 (advanced European Airbus) collaborative project and its own BAe 146 feeder airliner programme.

The military side of the business, which to British Aerospace's benefit as an investment has been accounting for over three-quarters of trading profits before launching costs for the past five years, is largely financed by development and progress payments by customers, the most substantial of whom is of course the British Government.

So in selling 50 per cent of the equity the Government and the issuing house, Kleinwort, Benson, had to rationalize selling

Sir Austin Pearce, chairman of British Aerospace

BAe as a premium stock (reasonable in view of the high military content which is both profitable and fashionable for investors) with the high-risk commercial aviation side of the business, largely speculative in the case of 146 and which could bear heavily on profits through launching costs.

To protect the balance sheet as BAe starts to borrow to finance its spending programme—which could be of the order of £700m over the next few years—the Government is subscribing for £100m of new equity capital from the proceeds of the sale while for its part BAe has arranged borrowing facilities from banks of around £400m, £150m of this short-term.

The outcome is restated 1980 profits to reflect the notional inclusion of the new equity of £65m pre-tax profits, against £52m, and thus a p/e ratio 9.6 assuming a full tax charge.

Next year apparently historic cost profits will be much the same as the effect of launch costs, around half of which will have to be financed from internal resources, bear down.

In fact the situation, given broadly maintained defence business for BAe, is not going to move dramatically off this plateau until the mid-1980s, when the benefits of the Airbus programme start showing through—and on this project BAe is expecting "significant returns" by 1985. The 146 is more problematical. BAe believes it can be profitable though points to the inherent uncertainties of any new development of this kind.

The question is whether maintained profits in a high technology business where there are real risks is a good enough picture to paint for the market at the moment. Certainly, the terms seem fairly tightly pitched even though a prospective yield of just under 7½ per cent is slightly better than one would get for example on a United States airframe stock. It looks like being a share which the institutions will want to hold, but which may not provide much excitement in the short-term.

BPC

Mr Maxwell makes his move

The clearing banks are being increasingly forced to take some difficult decisions in respect of their industrial lending portfolios. So far the major bankruptcy that many feared would come as surely as night follows day from the Government's tough monetary stance has not happened, with most company failures restricted to non-strategic sectors of industry.

As the Governor confirmed recently, the Bank of England has been playing an important cajoling role to prevent banks bringing in the receiver when normal banking prudence might have suggested otherwise.

Last night Sir Jeremy Morse, the chairman of Lloyds Bank, went to some lengths to explain the role the banks were playing in supporting their sound industrial customers through the depths of the recession, a point that the Committee of London Clearing Bankers made strongly in their lunch with the Prime Minister on Monday when trying to head off the possible windfall profits tax on the banks.

Just how far the banks have been going to assist their industrial customers is becoming progressively clearer although it is a fair assumption that only the tip of the iceberg reaches public knowledge. Yesterday, for example, Barclays announced a change of heart over Norvic Securities, and will continue to support the company for the time being having said earlier this week that it saw a bleak future for the British shoe industry.

Meanwhile, there appears to be an almighty struggle going on to keep Duport's head above water with again the Bank of England playing a central role. And today it looks as though NatWest will be forced to make an unpalatable choice when presented with Mr Maxwell's proposals for BPC which may involve conversion of loans into some form of equity, along the lines of the Massey-Ferguson solution.

Whatever happens at today's crucial talks on the future of BPC it now seems clear that Mr Robert Maxwell is set to take control of the troubled printing group.

BPC's board has apparently been totally unable to find as keen a saviour elsewhere. The crunch of course for shareholders has yet to come although it seems clear that Mr Maxwell's Pergamon group intends to drive a very hard bargain with regard to gaining control in exchange for a cash injection of possibly £10m.

What role the Bank of England has played in all this is not yet clear but the assumption must be that it has at least tacitly accepted Mr Maxwell's role.

The move will also only add to retrospective criticism of the way Mr Maxwell was able to grab a near 30 per cent stake in BPC through a stockmarket dawn raid last year. On this aspect, however, shareholders might well ponder where their group would be but for his intervention.

Companies legislation

Ducking the issue

One of the most striking things about the 1981 Companies Bill, which had its first reading in the Lords yesterday, is the absence of legislation outlawing "concert parties". There is wide agreement that disclosure rules need tightening to prevent anonymous parties secretly amassing a large stake in an unsuspecting company, as De Beers did in Consolidated Gold Fields.

The Government's failure to introduce legislation in this Bill is unfortunate because the next opportunity may be a long way off.

As for the Bill itself, the measures to speed up and strengthen Department of Trade investigations will certainly be welcomed—the recent report on Scotia took nearly five years to publication—and the Bill includes extra measures for penalizing those using companies for fraudulent or criminal ends.

The Government is also tightening up on directors who persistently fail to make returns to Companies House. However the decision to abolish the Registry of Business Names looks certain to provoke an outcry. Most of the submissions on this matter were strongly against abolition, and the "self regulating" system to replace the central register looks a poor alternative.

Those parts of the Bill dealing with the Fourth EEC Directive are unlikely to prove controversial, although the Bill is significant in that for the first time matters covered only by accounting standards will be incorporated into statute law.

The three-tier system of small, medium and large companies will allow some easing of the present disclosure burden on small private companies but creditors can still rest satisfied that all will have to undergo a full audit.

Economic notebook

Will the funding strategy work?

A government which by the end of next month will have successfully borrowed something like £23,000m (or more than £400 per head of the population) in the course of two years should not on the face of it have too much to worry about in terms of its approach to funding.

But simply borrowing such massive amounts of money is not, of course, the crux of the funding issue. At the end of the day the Government can always cover the difference between its revenue and expenditure by resorting to the printing presses

It could if it wished (and subject to raising the limits on the fiduciary issue) run off enough bank notes to cover its excess expenditure. In practice, it tends to write out cheques which people then deposit in their banks, in turn giving the banks the cash to lend to the Government to support those cheques.

The point about these methods of financing the Government's borrowing requirement is simply that they directly boost the money supply. In other words, they are highly inflationary.

A principal aim of funding, therefore, has to be to ensure that the increase in bank deposits caused by excess public spending is to an appropriate extent, offset by persuading people to take money out of the banks and buy public sector debt instead.

For most of the past few years the most obvious sources of money for the Government to tap have been the cash-rich long term savings institutions—the life assurance and pension funds.

These funds have wanted long-term assets to match their long-term liabilities and the Government has duly provided them with an unending stream of high coupon 15-25 year stocks, almost regardless of the long-term cost to the taxpayer should the inflation rate and interest rates fall back to more normal levels.

Needless to say, the effects have been pernicious. While the Government has been able to finance the bulk of the public sector borrowing requirement in a non-inflationary way, it has effectively so dominated the long-term savings market (at very high nominal rates of interest) that it has prevented other sectors, notably the corporate sector, financing their borrowing needs in a non-inflationary way. They have had little choice but to revert to bank credit, swelling both bank balance sheets and, by extension, the money supply too.

Diversify

At various stages the Government has made some attempt to diversify its funding. It boosted National Savings with its original issue of granny bonds. It successfully drew on certain pockets of excess liquidity in the corporate sector—mainly the oil sector—by means of the Certificate of Tax Deposit.

But it was only late last summer that it made clear that it was going to make a more pronounced effort to change the pattern of funding. It said it would be paying much greater emphasis on drawing off the rapidly growing level of personal sector liquidity into National Savings.

The aim was to create a virtuous circle. By taking part of the burden of public sector funding away from the long-term savings market it hoped that long-term interest rates would fall to levels at which companies would be encouraged to refinance part of their bank borrowing in the long-term debt markets. This would reduce the corporate sector's demand for bank loans, so reducing too the banks need to bid in the deposits that constitute the major element of the money supply.

Where would the money that would normally have gone to providing those bank deposits go? To the extent that it was personal sector liquidity, it would be drawn off by the more attractive terms to be offered by National Savings. As to the balance remaining, well that would be for the banks and the building societies to fight over as they chose.

The grand strategy was never expected to turn in the results desired overnight. But so far it is hard to discern any progress whatsoever. The original targets for sales of the new index-linked National Savings issue were grossly over-optimistic. More disturbingly perhaps, long-term yields have not only failed to fall in absolute terms, but they are higher in real terms and higher relative to short-term interest rates.

Target

The reason for this is not hard to find. Hardly surprisingly, investor confidence has been rocked by the two successive upward revisions in the projected size of the present year's public sector borrowing requirement, from an original figure last spring of £8,500m to the latest implicit figure of some £13,000m.

What is more, investors remain distinctly uneasy about the likely size of next year's public sector borrowing requirment, not to mention whether or not the accompanying, and presumably lower, target for monetary growth in 1981-82 will allow for any significant reduction in public sector debt sales to the institutions.

Indeed, the suspicion is almost that the idea of laying greater emphasis on National Savings sales to the personal sector will not represent any shift in the burden of public sector funding. Rather it will serve to provide an additional source of funds for the Government.

Moreover, the uncertainty does not end there. The fear, of course, is that last year's excessive growth in the money supply will see an upturn in the inflation rate in 1982. Certainly, in its latest Annual Monetary Review, the City University monetary team suggests that without a significant tightening on both the fiscal and monetary sides in the Budget, this is precisely what will happen in 1982.

While there is no doubt that this is going to be a fairly tough Budget, at least in relation to the depth of the recession, it must be doubtful that the Government can (credibly) go far enough with its financial figures to make completion of the virtuous circle this summer a probability.

Indeed, the eperience of the last year ought to have taught the Government not to promise what it is not practical to deliver. In short, it may well have to sail too close to the margins of safety in the Budget to give the virtuous circle any serious chance of being achieved.

In that case, it would probably do better to concentrate on other aspects of the funding-monetary control scene. Efforts to smooth the flow of government payments and receipts over the year would be a help. Still more flexibility in moving "tap" prices would be another.

The scope for new short-term debt instruments to soak up liquidity outside the banking system does, however, look limited. Index-linked gilts have obvious attractions, particularly as a method of dealing with the increasingly serious problem of the cost of debt servicing. But it is doubtful whether enough work has yet been done on the implications for the corporate sector and the financial system generally. Besides, there is scant evidence that the politicians deserve to be trusted with such a potent weapon.

John Whitmore

The goodwill clause which may be bad for business

Colin Perry

The Companies Bill 1981, published yesterday, includes provisions implementing the European Commission's Fourth Directive on company law and requires goodwill to be written off in the annual accounts of companies. It excludes goodwill arising on consolidation, since a draft Seventh Directive on group accounts is now under active negotiation in Brussels.

But at present *all* goodwill arises in the consolidated balance sheet and can only be written off (other than fictionally) in the accounts of the holding company. The Bill therefore intends no less than the writing off of untold thousands of millions of pounds—the Department of Trade has confirmed to the Consultative Committee of accountancy bodies that the legislation would enable goodwill to be written off immediately on acquisition—and its effect upon companies in the United Kingdom and Ireland, let alone on the economy, clearly cannot have been understood by the draughtsmen.

This knowledge in itself is likely to affect acquisitions by means of an exchange of shares dramatically and both the accountancy profession and government now face a serious and embarrassing situation. Yet it could be avoided by a simple addition to Section 56 of the Companies Act 1948.

Goodwill is the excess of the cost of shares in subsidiaries over the fair value of the net underlying assets ascribed to them: it is an indivisible part of that cost and is at present neither revealed nor written off in the accounts of a legal entity. The Bill requires goodwill to be disclosed in the company's balance sheet and that it be written off systematically over a period not exceeding its useful life, also to be disclosed, chosen by the directors.

At least for the company acquiring shares in a subsidary for *cash* it will become necessary for the directors to separate goodwill from the cost of investment and for the company to amortize the intangible asset, or to write it off on acquisition. This can be expected to have the effect of making cash offers more competitive.

In other words, the Bill brings goodwill specifically into the holding or purchasing company's accounts and it will not be left, as now, to emerge in consolidated accounts which do not represent a legal entity.

There is a fundamental difference where acquisitions are made through an exchange of shares. The position is governed by Section 56 of the Companies Act 1948, which requires the aggregate value of the premiums attaching to the nominal worth of the shares issued to be transferred to a share premium account and this account is treated as if it were paid up share capital of the company.

However, there is no statutory direction as to how a share premium is to be valued. In many cases quoted companies have valued the premiums as being the difference between the fair value of the net underlying assets represented by the shares acquired and the nominal worth of the shares offered in the exchange; and where this is so no goodwill arises.

But most offeror companies use the market value of their shares, particularly since the institutes of chartered accountants advocated in an ill-fated exposure draft ten years ago a so called "acquisition accounting" which referred to the market value of the shares issued. The result was that goodwill became the excess of an aggregate market value of shares issued over the sum of their nominal worth and the fair value of the net assets of the company acquired: it is a component of a share premium account. It is remarkable that no accounting standards have been issued on acquisitions, mergers or goodwill.

It is necessary to make some comments about goodwill arising as a consequence of attaching market values to shares issued in exchange. The directors have no control over the market price of their company's shares, which is speculative and normally attaches to small parcels of shares before the shares to be issued have been admitted to quotation. It has nothing to do with the reputation of the company to be acquired nor has it any relationship with any market value of the offeree's shares.

In most such acquisitions the consideration is a number of share certificates; neither the offeror nor the offeree companies have realized any shares nor can they be deemed to have done so. What happens is that a market price of the offeror's shares is written permanently into the holding company's accounts and its shareholders are able to become shareholders in the offeror company.

It was in the light of these facts that the Accounting Standards Committee of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies issued *Accounting for Goodwill: a discussion paper* in June, 1980, and requested the Department of Trade to avoid committing the United Kingdom to any firm position on the draft Seventh Directive until responses were received and evaluated. The discussion paper was deficient and a new exposure draft is to be expected later this year. But it will be of no consequence because the Accounting Standards Committee has said: "In its present form the proposed Seventh Directive envisages that consolidated goodwill should be written off *in the same way* as purchased goodwill in unconsolidated accounts" (author's italics).

Quite unforgivably, accountants have failed, in thirty-two years, to secure uniformity in the accounting treatment of share exchanges and to *understand*—can there be any other reason?—the muddle they have brought about in artificially creating goodwill arising on consolidation in share exchanges. If the eventual Seventh Directive is to permit an immediate write-off of goodwill against distributable reserves and it is to have any other than fictional effect, the write-off can be made only in the holding company's own accounts and that would be tantamount to a reduction of capital. Government should not itself *misunderstand* what is involved.

But there is no need for any company to create a so-called goodwill and, as immediately, imperil its well-being. Section 56 of the 1948 Act can be amended to provide:

"The offeror's shares be issued at a premium being the difference between their nominal value and the fair value of the net underlying assets of the shares to be acquired as ascribed to them, and not being below their values in the last audited accounts of the offeree, by the offeror when it has become the holding company."

The author is a member of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies Sub Committee on Company Law.

Closing the gap–179 years on

After waiting for 179 years for a Channel tunnel (or bridge) nobody is going to quibble if the latest deadlines set for such a scheme are overrun by a few weeks.

Napoleon was the first to suggest closing the gap and many a visionary has followed in his footsteps.

The latest plans are now piling up at the Department of Transport. Over the next few weeks the department expects to receive three further detailed proposals for Channel tunnel or bridge schemes.

Although an unofficial deadline for submissions was passed five days ago, only five out of the eight groups which have recently indicated their interest in Channel projects have so far presented their plans.

By the time schemes are received, Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Transport, also hopes to have the benefit of a report on the subject by a Commons Select Committee, which took evidence during last autumn and summer.

After so many years of abortive attempts to make a link across the Channel a few weeks' further delay is unlikely to cause much concern. Indeed, the Government is optimistic that one of the schemes will be approved by the end of the year.

The most recent of the schemes submitted is also the cheapest so far, costing only £635m at 1980 prices, little more than a year's funding for BL, as one hopeful contractor put it this week.

European Channel Tunnel Group, which comprises Costain, the British building and civil engineering company, and three other leading Community contractors, envisages a bored, single-rail track tunnel. N. M. Rothschild, its financial advisers, say that the group would manage, design and build the project in collaboration with British Rail and SNCF, the French railway system.

The group has also assured the Government that private finance can be raised without guarantees from the public sector, thus meeting ministers' requirement that any Channel project should be commercially viable and not call on public finance.

Of the four other schemes submitted so far, two are for tunnels and two for bridges.

Tarmac, the Wolverhampton-based roadstone and civil engineering group, heads a consortium with plans for a two-track rail link, costing an estimated £1,730m. It is based on the Channel tunnel scheme abandoned five years ago.

British Rail and SNCF are working on plans for a 31-mile single rail tunnel, although the Department of Transport said this week that the partners may modify their proposals. At present, the cost of the scheme is put at £800m, with about a further £100m for terminals, at 1979 prices.

Road bridges are envisaged by two groups, who estimate the likely cost to be between £2,000m and £3,000m, with more ambitious provisions for rail traffic adding an additional £800m. These are proposed by Euro-Bridge, a consortium including Pell Frischmann and Partners, and LinktoEurope, which is basing its proposals on designs by Freeman Fox and British Steel's Redpath Dorman Long.

The remaining potential challengers to build the link are expected to be British Steel, a consortium involving Taylor Woodrow, Edmund Nuttall and Balfour Beatty, which says that it has "expressed an interest," and an Anglo-Dutch group, comprising Wimpey and Royal Volker Stevin.

The British Steel scheme is likely to prove the most ambitious and, probably, the most expensive. Advised by Lazards, the state-owned corporation is understood to be drawing up plans in conjunction with McAlpine and Mott Hay and Anderson for a viaduct/tunnel, offering a range of road and rail options, costing between £4,600m and £6,000m. One advantage of the British steel scheme is that it could bring up to 80,000 jobs for six years in North-east England.

So far, the British Rail/SNCF scheme has been singled out as the favourite one, and Mr Fowler told the select committee last November that the British Rail board was confident of its success.

The schemes submitted so far show plenty of imaginative engineering, but a shortage of this has never hindered Channel tunnel or bridge projects. If both recent and distant history are anything to go by, the obstacles are more political and financial.

Prospective investors are still concerned that the link could became a pawn in cross-Channel power politics. Almost certainly, some form of treaty between the British and French governments would be needed to clear the way for a start to be made.

If political guarantees could be given to convince potential investors that governments would not interfere, the chances of raising sufficient private capital would be greatly improved.

Meanwhile, Mr Fowler will be helped in his final choice of scheme by a study of the likely financial feasibility of a Channel link which is being carried out by a consortium of merchant banks.

John Huxley

Business Diary: Paper tigers? • 'Parker must stay'

Three tons of waste paper, ideal for recycling as packaging material, cardboard, rough copy notepaper and the like, will be dumped this morning on the doorstep of the Department of Industry, at Ashdown House, Victoria Street, London.

Although the delivery has been arranged by the campaigners of Friends of the Earth, the action is a protest supported by waste paper merchants, voluntary groups and individual householders throughout Britain who are frustrated at the collapse yet again of the waste paper market.

In an era when cuts and savings are the first priority of government departments, the environmentalists are astonished that the arguments for saving resources by recycling waste are not appreciated, particularly as the paper making industry is the sixth largest user of energy.

Recycling can save more than £500m in imports if a serious effort is made in this field. Moreover, it would make an important contribution to saving the world's forests which are being cleared at an increasing rate.

But the strong pound has produced another instance of it being cheaper to import expensive paper products or valuable virgin timber rather than developing a stable commercial trade in recycling.

Yet the arguments made cogently by other industries, like chemicals, about the disadvantages of high energy prices to United Kingdom companies apply equally to the activities of their less sophisticated brethren.

● British Rail chairman Sir Peter Parker, whose contract expires in September this year, has received a heartfelt plea from the industry's white collar union, the Transport Salaried Staff Association, to stay on in his job.

Tom Jenkins, general secretaary of TSSA, makes the appeal in the latest issue of the organization's journal. He says that he believes that Sir Peter has the interests of the industry at heart.

"We have always found him very fair in our dealings with the board and, at this particular time, continuity at the top is most essential in meeting the difficulties facing the railways".

Against the background of recession-induced problems of BR, the Government-inspired plans for privatization of some of its activities and the threat to jobs as a result of both, the TSSA appeal for Sir Peter to stay is unusual, Jenkins admits. But he and his 69,000 members

Sir Peter Parker.

(fewer than half those in the National Union of Railwaymen, but more than double the membership of Ray Buckton's Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen) believe that Sir Peter has been good for BR.

The BR chairman's extrovert manner, his penchant for the catch-phrase and the emphasis on improving the image of the railways (and the quality of BR's service) have clearly endeared him to the TSSA general secretary, although even he admits that the unions are not prepared to go all the way with some of Sir Peter's thinking.

Whether Sir Peter will stay on beyond September 11 this year remains to be seen. He has been in the job since September, 1976, when he took over from Sir Richard Marsh. The post commands a salary of £48,000, far less than a man of Sir Peter's calibre could expect to receive in the private sector.

He has already let it be known that for family reasons he would prefer to go this autumn. Bearing in mind the trouble which the Government has had finding men to take over state industries in the past couple of years the search for a successor may not be easy.

● The executive branch of the United States government is in confusion as the Reagan Cabinet turfs out all the departmental officials who operated under the Carter administration. The President led the way by dismissing all 15 of the government's inspector generals. Scores of empty offices now litter public buildings in Washington—but not for long.

There is no shortage of eager Republicans to grab power and for some, such as the Andersons of California, or Charles Walker, the new President is making all the right choices. United States economic policy is not lurching to the right—it is racing to the right.

Martin Anderson is an ultra-conservative economist from the Hoover Institution in California, whose influence will be substantial as domestic affairs adviser to the President.

Anderson's wife, Annelise, has just been appointed associate director of economics and government affairs in the Office of Management and Budget. She too was a fellow at the Hoover think-tank.

Meanwhile, Charles Walker, former deputy secretary of the Treasury, respected corporate lobbyist, writer of Republican party tax programmes and founder of the American Council for Capital Formation, the non-profit research group, can look forward to a period of considerable influence. He will not be in the government but so many of his friends will be that his views will be heard. He is particularly pleased that two directors of his Council for Capital Formation have won top posts.

One of these is Murray Weidenbaum the new chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers and the other is Norman Ture, the under-secretary of the Treasury for tax policy. Walker describes Ture as "the real godfather of supply side economics".

● It was an awkward one, even for a seasoned politician, when Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, was landed with the long-running row in the cutlery industry over the imports of stainless steel blanks from the Far East. These are finished off in Britain and usually marked, quite legally, "Made in Sheffield."

One importing company, very much at the centre of the row with those still manufacturing wholly in Britain, was Viner's of Sheffield. Mrs Oppenheim is a member of the Viner family. Everybody waited to see how she might resolve what could be a clash of interests.

Mrs Oppenheim, whose responsibilities at the Department of Trade have recently been expanded—covering service areas from tourism to films—has in the event acted without fear or favour. A special "country of origin" marking order, covering silver-plated stainless steel cutlery, came out yesterday which lays down that in future the national origin of stainless steel blanks will have to be shown.

If they are silver-plated in Sheffield that can also be indicated to the consumer.

The controversy caused so much heat because the import penetration by stainless cutlery in Britain is well over 90 per cent. Although Mrs Oppenheim's decision will cool things a little the Government is still considering a working party report on the industry, which recommended import controls on some low-cost cutlery and various forms of assistance for the British industry.

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Equities remain in demand on MLR hopes

With all hopes pinned on a cut in Minimum Lending Rate today, investors kept up their demand for equities yesterday, pushing prices higher in a thin market.

Dealers reported continued selective institutional support, which went some way to offsetting the worries surrounding the activities of ICL, Britain's largest computer group, which encountered renewed weakness after the announcement of losses estimated at £20m in the first quarter.

Even the completion of the underwriting for the £150m offer-for-sale by the Government of British Aerospace took a back seat with investors' attention firmly focused on the prospect of cheaper money in the near future.

Nevertheless, jobbers were still having a tough time of things in the thin conditions, with little selling pressure evident. The most commonly held view among market pundits was that the firm conditions are likely to result in little, if any, stock coming on offer for the time being, with the present technical rally still having some way to run.

In the event, the *FT* Index, having climbed 2.9 at 2pm, closed 2.3 higher at 478.9.

Gilts also shared in the expectation of a cut in MLR and, after a quiet start, buyers again emerged and pushed prices still higher. In longs, demand for the new "tap", Exchequer, 12¼ per cent, 1999, "B", receded ahead of going fully paid today although the price rose £1/16 to £20 7/16.

Elsewhere in longs, earlier gains of £¼ were extended to £⅜ by the close while in shorts rises of a similar amount encountered profit-taking, to leave rises of about £¼ on the day.

The thin conditions continued to benefit leading industrials, where several blue chips showed exaggerated gains compared with the actual level of turnover.

Hawker Siddeley led the way up with a 4p rise to 262p, after 268p, followed by ICI, 2p to 296p, Unilever, 5p to 460p, Lucas Industries, 3p to 173p (still reflecting the Nissan plans to open a plant in the UK), and Rank Organisation, 2p to 164p on the back of its deal with Phicom.

In these times of recession the emergency company seminar is playing an increasingly active role in soothing the nerves of various City institutions. Yesterday, it was the turn of BOC International, which alleviated earlier fears of a pending rights issue. The shares immediately rallied 6p to 115p.

News that Tate & Lyle is to postpone the closure of its Liverpool refinery took 6p from the shares at 152p, but elsewhere in foods, J. Bibby attracted demand on renewed hopes of a bid which sent the shares soaring 17p to 255p, before dropping back to 250p at the close. Robertson Foods eased back a little, to rest at 52p with the Avana bid still in the air and G. Bassett gained 2p to 37p on speculation.

An extraordinary firm day was reported in the engineering sector with the best second-liners leading the way with some buying. On the back of record sales Vosper climbed 8p to 101p, investment buying in Powell Duffryn added 6p to 247p and John Brown, on the strength of its £35m order from Iraq, was up 5p to 72p, despite dismal forecasts earlier in the week.

Electricals, however, stayed a thin market with little stock around. Unitech fell 15p to 216p, on the chairman's profit warning. Electrocomponents dropped 20p at 238p and Farnell shed 10p to 345p.

There were few surprises from companies reporting, with Benn Bros. unchanged at 48p and City of London Brewery, showing same-again profits, held steady at 74p. I. Berger jumped 15p to 150p on fresh bid hopes and Grattan was up 10p to 78p on speculative interest. Dry cleaners, after favourable mentions, lifted, with Johnson Group up 3p to 168p and Initial Services up 3p at 191p.

Breweries advanced across the board with receding fears of heavy Budget prices and hopes of lenient treatment. Bass, gaining 6p to 209p, and Whitbread, up 7p to 152p, led the market to some large rises. Jobbers reported a flurry of activity and big turnover in the market—with some shares catching up on lost ground.

The prospect of cheaper money with a cut in MLR saw building shares moving ahead. Barratt Developments added 6p to close at 173p, Newarthill was up 10p at 328p and Blue Circle rose 8p to 362p. Business was quiet in BTR, closing 2p ahead at 388p. Tarmac closed 9p up at 283p.

Properties and insurance also moved forward for the same reasons. Insurances continued their upward swing with Gen Acc gaining another 2p to 306p and GRE up 2p at 318p. Cheap money drove properties like Haslemere up 4p at 382p and Land Securities up 3p to 388p.

Banks are still losing ground with the fears of a windfall tax, with Nat West dropping 2p to 366p and Midland down 5p at 316p. Lloyds and Barclays were unchanged at 325p and 386p respectively.

A quiet, but firm day was reported in the oils market despite the news of an abandoned North Sea well. BP edged ahead 4p to 416p, Lasmos advanced 5p to 674p and Shell firmed 4p at 432p.

Figures due soon from Horizon Holiday saw the shares rising 9p to 152p, and Davies and Newman, also in the sector, jumped 14p to 123p on revived bid rumours. But fading bid hopes for Austin Reed saw a 9p drop to 74p.

Although the gold price recovered to $505.5, there was little exceptional activity with stocks holding steady and firm. The market is looking to see if prices stay steady at this level for a few days before moving in.

Some bargain-hunters still have faith in ICL, despite its £20m first-quarter loss. As the shares fell further yesterday, touching 28p at one point, one buyer picked up one million shares at 30p. They closed 9p down at 32p.

On the back of figures from UC Investments with higher dividend payments shares were boosted 61p to 445p and rises of $4 to $6 were seen in the heavy weight market. RTZ rose 3p to 383p, Cons Gold gained 5p to 453p and Anglo Am Gold added 2p to 38p. Lonrho, releasing results today, firmed 2p to 106p with expectations of a maintained or better dividend. Some buying in a small stock, Phoenix Mines, a commercial property company, sent shares up 4p to 52p.

Equity turnover on February 3 was £122,349m (15,749 bargains). Active stocks yesterday according to the Exchange Telegraph, were: GEC, ICL, BAT, Plessey, Unitech, Beecham, Shell, Allied Breweries, Grattan Warehouses, Whitbread, Barclays, Bass, Consolidated Gold Fields, GKN and Electrocomponents.

Traditional options: Dealers reported increased inquiry with three-month calls made in Simmer & Jack at 180p and Sterling Credit at 1¾p. Doubles were completed in Woodside, Burmah, KCA Int, Lonrho and Lincroft Kilgour.

Latest results

Company *Int or Fin*	Sales *£m*	Profits *£m*	Earnings *per share*	Div *pence*	Pay *date*	Year's *total*
Benn Bros. (I)	6.4(5.8)	0.36(0.49)	2.0(2.9)	1.1(1.1)	7/4	—(4.9)
City of Lon Brew (I)	—(—)	1.83(1.84)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(4.2)
English & NY Tst (F)	—(—)	2.97*(2.78*)	4.3(3.75)	2.3(2.1)	16/4	4.05(4)
Lon & Grtmre Inv (I)	—(—)	0.17*(0.13*)	1.22(0.46)	—(—)	—	—(1.0)
Sterling Trust (F)	2.74*(2.57*)	—(—)	9.77(9.32)	6.5(5.6)	—	9.5(9.1)
Yorks Fine Wool (F)	3.96(3.81)	0.29† (0.056†)	23†(2.13)	—(—)	—	—(0.5)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *Gross revenue; †Loss.

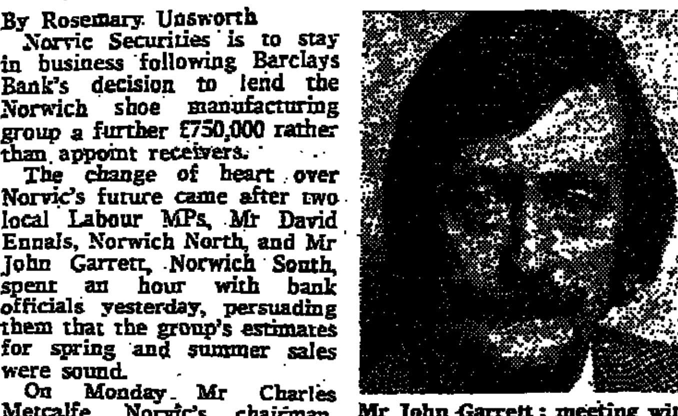
MPs persuade Barclays to reprieve Norvic

By Rosemary Unsworth

Norvic Securities is to stay in business following Barclays Bank's decision to lend the Norwich shoe manufacturing group a further £750,000 rather than appoint receivers.

The change of heart over Norvic's future came after two local Labour MPs, Mr David Ennals, Norwich North, and Mr John Garrett, Norwich South, spent an hour with bank officials yesterday, persuading them that the group's estimates for spring and summer sales were sound.

On Monday Mr Charles Metcalfe, Norvic's chairman, announced that receivers would have to be appointed if the £750,000 was not raised by the end of the week. After commissioning a report from Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants, Barclays decided that it could not increase Norvic's borrowings beyond £2.9m. This was in spite of cash flow projections provided by Norvic that the money could have been repaid within the current year.



Mr John Garrett: meeting with Barclays.

The financial support will be linked with terms, yet to be agreed, which may include a voluntary pay freeze until March 1982 by the employees. Such a freeze would save £180,000.

Norvic's call for additional funds came after an extensive reorganization designed to deal with the problem of declining exports and the recession. Two factories were closed and 900 employees made redundant at a cost of £1.5m.

Mr Metcalfe also said on Monday that pretax losses this year would amount to £2.25m after an interim loss of £900,000. He pointed out that the reorganization had taken more than £3m out of operating expenses, reducing the break-even point substantially. However, the extra finance was needed to make stocks for the pre-Easter sales, he said.

Norvic now employs 1,100 staff of whom 400 are based in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

The group's shares were suspended on Monday at 10p, their par value, giving the group a market capitalization of £7.5m.

Panel asks Caparo for decision on CMT

By Catherine Gunn

The Takeover Panel has asked Mr Swraj Paul's private investment company Caparo to make up its mind and declare by next Monday morning whether it intends to mount a counter-bid for West Midlands engineering group Central Manufacturing & Trading. Mr Paul was not available for comment yesterday.

Caparo announced on December 3 that it was considering a counter-bid for CMT, already the subject of a £13m offer from Hanson Trust made on November 28. Caparo had been building up a stake in CMT for several months and at that stage owned 15½ per cent of the shares, to Hanson's 13.3 per cent.

However, though Caparo went on buying in the market, at 51½p, and brought its stake in CMT up to 21½ per cent at the last count, no counter-bid has been forthcoming. Hanson has refused to increase its offer worth 49p a share, and has now extended it until February 13, after receiving acceptances for only 9.1 per cent of the equity. The shares fell 1p to 51p in the market yesterday.

If Caparo decides not to bid after all, the Takeover Panel has said that it will agree to "a suitable extension to the final date" of the Hanson offer, if Hanson wishes.

In early November CMT announced a £591,000 loss before tax for the year to end-July, 1980, compared with a £3.65m profit the previous year, and passed its final dividend.

Takeover by Lyle Shipping

By Peter Wainwright

Lyle Shipping, one of the smaller United Kingdom shipping groups which has weathered recession well, has found a cheap way of paying for new ships. *It is buying* Leadenhall Commodities, a private group with interests in *property* development, leasing and investment. The two key shareholders are property men Mr Boris Tennant and Mr Jo[illegible] Sorkin. Both are over 70. At December 31 last the group had net tangible assets of £3.32m, a lot of them in cash. Lyle intends to turn the rest into money, too.

The price will be £2.81m, to be satisfied through the placing of 467,500 new ordinary shares and the same number of "A" non-voting shares. The placing of 70 per cent of the shares at 300p among a string of institutions was handled by Wood, Mackenzie. H. Hogarth, the owner of just under 30 per cent of Lyle is buying 30 per cent of the new shares. The deal was put together by Guinness Mahon.

Lyle is effectively paying 300p a share for assets of at least 354p. Lyle's shares duly hardened to 322p, so the placing is at a discount on the existing shares of less than [illegible] per cent. The group and its advisers decided that a rights issue to all shareholders could not have been done at less than a 15 per cent discount.

Moreover, the placing still leaves Lyle with the option of a cash-call later on. But yesterday's announcement, however, made no mention of this.

Briefly

Burmah Oil: Agreement in principle reached for acquisition by Burmah of Bray Oil and Bray Processing. Talks are advanced and a further announcement will be made.

Palmerston Investment Trust: Chairman reports in his interim statement that results to date in the second half-year are encouraging and he expects that the year will end with a surplus in excess of 1979-80.

James Beattie: Following notification from the Inspector of Taxes of refusal to give clearance to Beattie's application under paragraph 18(2) Schedule 16 of the Finance Act, 1972, it is proposed to pay a supplementary final dividend on ordinary and "A" ordinary of 0.9085p out of profits for year ended January 31, 1980.

Kellock Trust: In his annual report chairman states that although the board expects that the results for 1981 will show a material improvement over 1980, shareholders should note that it is improbable that the growth rate of about 100 per cent p.a. which has been attained over the last few years, will be maintained in 1981.

Sheraton Securities International: Rights issue accepted in respect of 12.4m (95.4 per cent) shares.

E. J. Riley: Pursuant to the terms of the agreement for acquisition of Andor Arts the final instalment of the consideration, £88,000, has now been paid in shares which have been placed through the market with clients of Orme and Co in order to realize a net sum of £31,000 for the vendors.

Sterling Trust: Total income for 1980, £2.74m (£2.57m). Total dividend, 13.57p gross (13p, including special of 1.42p).

London & Gartmore Investment Trust: Gross revenue for half-year to December 31, 1980, £178,000 (£136,000). Available for shareholders (after expenses and estimated tax) £52,000 (£20,000). Net asset value per ordinary share at December 31, 133.68p (106.5p at June 30, 1980).

Ferguson Industrial Holdings: Elections under recommended offers for Gosforth Industrial Holdings by Ferguson received as: elections for shares, 2.66m; elections for cash, 3.65m; acceptances of basic offers, 7.56m and total number of acceptances, 13.88m. Share elections will be satisfied in full and cash elections to 39.66 per cent of such elections.

TSB Trust Company received the following life new business in 1980: Annual premium income, £24.49m (£21.35m); Single premium income, £14.26m (£7.08m); Sums insured, £390.57m (£316.27m).

Benn reorganization going well

By Brian Appleyard

The cutbacks in Benn Brothers general publishing area are running on schedule and will be completed within its current year.

The cuts involve scaling down the academic and education publishing side as well as the general list. Meanwhile the £2m investment by the company in expanding the Tonbridge magazine base is soaking up a large portion of the employees made redundant by the retrenchment in books. So the redundancy bill this year will not be large.

Last year Benn ran into a disagreement with the Inland Revenue about the tax treatment of £226,000 paid in redundancies. This left a potential liability of £117,000 which has still not been settled, though the signs are that Benn will not have to pay.

The interim figures for the six months to December 31 show pretax profits down from £488,000 to £360,000 on turnover, up from £5.8m to £6.5m. After an extraordinary item of £65,000, consisting of profit from the sale of *Fire Protection* and *Fire Protection Directory*, attributable profits are marginally ahead at £238,000 against £234,000.

Overall, due to the Tonbridge investment, there will be a cash outflow this year, though a tranche of stock appreciation relief will be taken in. As a result, Benn should emerge still nil-geared at the end of the year.

The interim dividend is maintained at 1.57p gross. The total for last year was 4.86p. The shares at 48p, unchanged yesterday, yield 10.12 with a historic p/e ratio on stated earnings of 5.6.

IBM forecasts further squeeze

International

International Business Machines expects profit margins to continue under pressure because of investment required for continued growth, the high cost of borrowing and inflation.

In an advance copy of its annual report, IBM also says its "relatively low debt ratios and a strong balance sheet position enable management to consider a full range of financing options, both in the United States and abroad, for future capital needs".

IBM said the choices among financing options ultimately would depend on prevailing money market and economic conditions.

It said it expected some of the effects of inflation to be mitigated by technological advances, continuing emphasis on productivity improvements and cost control, and selective price adjustments.

IBM disclosed in the report that its pretax operating income from office products operations fell to $479m (£204m) in 1980 from $566m in 1979, despite a rise in gross income to $4,100m.

Deutsche Shell dips 6.9 pc

Deutsche Shell AG, the West German subsidiary of the Royal Dutch/Shell group, reports a net profit of DM245.8m (£50.1m) for 1980, down 6.9 per cent from 1979, in its preliminary financial review. Total sales of oil products dropped steeply in 1980 to 16.6 million metric tons from 19.9 million metric tons in 1979, according to the report.

In the group's oil activities alone, marginal gains in the first three quarters of 1980 were able to partially absorb the high fourth-quarter loss of DM189.1m in the sale of oil products, to hold the overall loss to DM117m for the whole year.

Looking forward, the group said that information available at this time suggested that rising oil costs and a strong dollar will combine to show worsening operational results for the first month of 1981.

American Can

Mr William S. Woodside chairman at American Can says that inflation and weak demand in many of the company's key markets were the primary causes of a decline in earnings from $24.4m to $19.1m (£8.26m) for the final quarter. The whole of 1980 saw profits drop from $127.3m to $85.7m.

"We are confident that as the economy strengthens and demand returns to more normal levels earnings will improve", he said.

Loss expected at Citroen

Automobiles Citroen, the French car maker, said it could make a loss of up to 800m francs (£69.6m) for 1980, after a net profit of of 202.1m francs in 1979.

Citroen, a subsidiary of Peugeot, said it expects to break even in 1981 with a reduced workforce and sales volume close to the 610,000 vehicles sold in 1980, including 286,000 exports.

First half sales could be 30 per cent below those of the first half of 1980 in France and 15 to 20 per cent lower overseas, it said. Second half sales are expected to recover, however.—Reuter.

Reliance Group ahead

Reliance Group reports that operating income from continuing operations in 1980 increased to $78.6m (£34m) from $66.9m. Sales were $1,430m in 1980, compared with $1,270m.

Mr Saul P. Steinberg, chairman and chief executive officer, said, overall, Reliance's property and casualty operations had a reasonably good year, posting a combined ratio that was in line with the industry.

Stake in Hartwells revealed

By Catherine Gunn

A mystery company based in Panama yesterday revealed a 6.9 per cent stake in Hartwells Group, the Oxfordshire vehicle and fuel distributor. Hartwells's directors are trying to discover who stands behind the Panamanian company, Corbillot Holdings.

Hartwells received a letter yesterday morning from a London stockbroking firm informing it of the stake. Mr Peter Huggins, the chief executive, said yesterday that the group knew nothing about Corbillot but was not unduly worried by the stake. "It must mean we are a good company", he said.

Directors control 16.5 per cent of Hartwells's equity and the group's pension fund also has "a substantial stake". A further 5.8 per cent is held by Byrom House Nominees, which Mr Huggins said "as far as we are aware" has no connexion with Corbillot.

Hartwells's broker, de Zoete & Bevan, said there had been no signs that a stake was being built up. It is making inquiries to establish the identity of the party or parties concerned. The shares were unchanged at 73p yesterday.

Meanwhile Hartwells, whose year ends on February 28, said business had been holding up reasonably well in the recession and the group was trading profitably, although the second half was traditionally more difficult.

Yorkshire Fine Woollen hopes for requotation soon

The board of Yorkshire Fine Woollen Spinners is applying for a restoration of the company's listing by early March, and hopes to be able to resume dividend payments this year.

The shares were suspended on January 9 pending details of a rights issue to raise £560,000 net towards the £1.4m acquisition of knitted and upholstery fabric manufacturer AW Fabrics from the receiver of Cope Sportswear.

The rights issue document, now on its way to shareholders, indicates that dividends, which have not been paid since an 0.5p net interim in 1979, are likely to be restored this year. Mr T. W. G. Ashdown, a director who was formerly on the board of Cope Sportswear, said yesterday that the group is now trading profitably. In 1980 it made a pretax loss of £291,000 after paying mere than doubled interest of £214,000, and selling its dyeing and finishing subsidiary Allen Thornton & Sons at a £107,000 loss on assets in October.

Trading losses of £110,000 from Allen Thornton are shown as an extraordinary debit. The group received a £45,000 tax credit.

In 1979, group pretax losses were £56,000 before a tax credit of £95,000. Mr Ashdown said yesterday that the group is more optimistic about this year's results.

The acquisition of AW Fabrics, now renamed Yorkshire Fine Fabrics, has to be approved at an extraordinary general meeting on February 27.

GFSA half-year jump

Gold Fields of South Africa, the mining finance house in which Consolidated Gold Fields has a 46 per cent stake, raised attributable profit for the six months to the end of December more than twofold to R89.7m (£49.8m).

At the same time, the company announced a second interim dividend of 125 cents, after a first interim of 55 cents.

Nevertheless, over the last year dividend cover has risen from two times to three times. Dividends for the year to the end of last June amounted to 400 cents, and profits were R124m.

The high gold price which so benefited Gold Fields also helped Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie, the Australian producer, increase its interim consolidated operating profit from A$3.24m to A$4.73m (£2.36m).

Ascot TV quote is suspended

The board of Ascot TV Rentals asked the Stock Exchange to suspend its share listing at 6p yesterday until the company's financial position can be clarified, and the accounts to end-March, 1980, are finalized. Ascot has agreed to sell some 3,500 television rental contracts to Telebank Television Rentals for about £700,000 payable over 15 months, after considerable trading losses on its rental contracts business. The shares were 6p before the request.

The managing directors of the operating subsidiaries have resigned and Mr M. A. Harper is also stepping down from the main board, which is chaired by Mr Tony Rudd of Rowe Rudd, the stockbroking firm.

Peak £80.8m profit from Gallaher

Best-ever sales and profits were reported yesterday by Gallaher, which is controlled by American Brands of the United States.

On group sales 13 per cent greater at £1,835.8m, pretax profits for 1980 rose by 28 per cent to £80.8m. Mr S. G. Cameron, the chairman, said that *1980* was a record year for most group divisions. Non-tobacco operations contributed *£20.7m* to group trading profits (before interest), which totalled £80.9m.

A strong cash-flow has further strengthened the balance sheet. Apart from tobacco, Gallaher's other divisions are pumps and valves, optical and distribution.

Richards may not break even this year

The annual meeting at Richards heard Mr A. R. Robertson, chairman, say that there is no longer any short-time working in any department. However, the current year will not be any easier than the last one.

There is no sign of any improvement in the economic outlook, especially for textiles. The company did not manage to break even during the first quarter of the current year, and it may prove difficult to break even for the year as a whole he said.

The capital expansion programme is going ahead as planned, but the timing of various sections of it is being affected by the state of the economy.

Security Centres' shares placed

Jamieson Management Services, a company controlled by Mr T. S. Jamieson, the chairman of Security Centres Holdings, has sold 500,000 ordinary shares in Security Centres by a placing with institutional investors. Following this, Jamieson Management remains beneficially interested in 1.39 million ordinaries of Security Centres, a security services group.

Mr T. S. Jamieson's personal direct holding in Security Centres remains unaltered at *16,666 ordinaries*. *Mr Jamieson* confirms that neither he nor Jamieson Management intend *making further disposals* of shares in the foreseeable future.

Record asset rise at Provincial

Provincial Building Society's total assets rose by 17.3 per cent last year to £1,640m—the largest increase in the Provincial's history. New investment receipts expanded from £548m to £639m, while the net rise in investors' balances reached £218m, compared with 1979's £149m. The number of open investment accounts was up by 80,000 to 887,000.

Dale Electric's French takeover

Dale Electric International, the Filey, Yorks, power systems company, has made an acquisition in France, its first overseas takeover.

It has bought 76 per cent of the French emergency power company, Comptoir General Impex for 4.1m francs (about £356,000) in cash from the Romano family, who started the company in 1946. The family retain 24 per cent of the equity.

Estimated turnover of Impex for 1980, is 12.2m francs (about £1.1m), with pretax profits of 1.3m francs (about £120,000). The company manufactures and markets emergency lighting units, battery chargers, fire and burglar alarms.

Business appointments

Guinness Mahon director named

Mr W. O. F. Wallis has been appointed a director of Guinness Mahon.

Mr Cyrus R. Vance, the former United States Secretary of State, and Mr Frank A. Bennack, Jr. have been elected directors of Manufacturers Hanover Corporation and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, its principal subsidiary.

Mr Malcolm H. Smyth has been appointed chairman of the board of A. C. Nielsen, the Oxford-based business services and marketing research organization.

Mr Paul Williams has been appointed vice-president and general manager of Houston operations for the M. W. Kellogg Company.

Mr Lawrence Lerner, chairman and president of the Environetics Group (of which Saphier Lerner Schindler Ltd is the United Kingdom representative) will become chairman of Saphier Lerner Schindler Ltd on the retirement of Mr Hugh Saunders.

Mr P. B. S. Johnson has been appointed to the board of Johnson Group Cleaners.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

Problem of selectivity in Australian shares

Australia's mining equity market is becoming more complicated than ever. After a two-year boom, it is clear that the price rises are neither sustained nor common to all shares. Looking back, it seems that the peak was reached last October. The problem now is how to be selective.

According to a survey conducted by Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants and management consultants, on behalf of the Australian Mining Council, the year to the end of last June was very good indeed. The survey covered 74 respondents and excludes oil and gas. Figures include exploration for extraction and primary processing of minerals, but exclude processes after the first pouring of refined metal. The manufacture of iron and coke into steel is also left out.

With these provisos, the results show that aggregate net profits rose by 62 per cent over 1978-79 to A$874m (£437m). Aggregate balance sheets were A$10,147m (£5,073m) compared with A$8,730m (£4,465m). Profits were greatly helped by strong metal prices: the Australian Bureau of Statistics calculates that non-ferrous metal export prices increased by 53 per cent over the 12-month period.

Just as important, the financial position of the companies improved. By June 1980 the overall debt/equity ratio was down to 0.69:1, a distinct fall from the highly geared days of 1977 when the ratio was 1.17:1. To some extent the change was caused by a revaluation of assets, without which the ratio would have been 0.88:1, still below the previous 12 months' ratio. But the ratio was also influenced by a tendency to pay out a lower proportion of profits to shareholders.

Mining

Underlying all these dry facts is one outstanding trend: profitability has been growing steadily for the last four years. The effective after-tax return on funds employed was 15.38 per cent against 12.25 per cent in 1976-77. The average over the same period is about 13 per cent.

Crucially, the indications are that exploration and mining are more profitable than smelting and refining. The comparison is complicated by the different tax rates applicable to the two types of activity: mining as such carries royalties and coal export duty giving a 55 per cent rate, whereas smelting and refining pays the normal 46 per cent company rate. Nevertheless, the gap is too wide to dismiss. The return on mining was 14.61 per cent last year, and on smelting and refining 10.12 per cent.

Without doubt, therefore those investors fortunate or wise enough to buy a couple of years ago and sell about three months back did well.

But what of those who did not sell at the top? For them the picture is blurred. On the one hand, investment in the Australian mineral industry is still huge. At the beginning of this year the Commonwealth Department of Industry and Commerce valued proposed mineral projects, excluding oil and gas but including coal, at approximately A$24,400m (£12,200m), an increase of roughly 10 per cent since June 1980.

This alone, without any predictions about when base metal prices will recover from their present depressed state, points to an almost touching faith in the future. But, on the other hand, it does not help the investor asking when and where to place funds. The last few months have seen the gloss wear off Australian blue chip stocks. The more speculative exploration shares have taken harder knocks.

Western Mining's recent market performance is instructive. Encompassing an extensive exploration programme, base metals in the shape of nickel, and gold production, the company is almost an industry weathervane, and commands a strong following. Since the end of October its price has fallen by about 60p in London to 243p yesterday. The shares 1980-81 high was 332p.

Obviously, the sometimes hectic bull market, which attracted a lot of investors unfamiliar with the rough and tumble world of Australian mining stocks, would run out of steam.

Three factors have played their part. Some shares, Western Mining among them, were considered to be overpriced, trading on inflated multiples. After the excellent run up to the middle of 1980, base metal prices collapsed. And more specifically related to Australia, the Australian dollar has strengthened against the American dollar since the end of the June 1980 quarter.

Prices are now easing, but the other restraining factors show no sign of abating. In the immediate future, therefore, the punters' hopes might be pinned on our old friend gold. Australian mines such as Central Norsman and Poseidon (the very same in a new guise) enjoy breakeven costs of around A$200 an ounce. The recovery here is quite highly geared, and probably requires less patience than waiting for base metals.

Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airprung Group	62	—	6.7	10.8	5.6
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	42	—	1.4	3.3	17.3
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	+1	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	111	—	6.4	5.8	3.5
110	54	Frederick Parker	54	—	11.0	20.4	2.5
110	74	George Blair	75	—	3.1	4.1	—
110	59	Jackson Group	108	+1	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	119	−1	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	215	Torday Limited	215	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	12¼	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	76	—	15.0	19.7	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	37	+1	3.0	8.1	5.7
102	81	Walter Alexander	102	—	5.7	5.6	5.6
260	181	W. S. Yeates	260	—	12.1	4.7	4.2

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MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

OPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars £7[illegible] a tonne; three months [illegible]. Sales, 275. Cash cathodes, [illegible]; three months, £761-62. Sales, 25 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £771.50-72; three months, £7[illegible]. Settlement 774. Sales, 10,150 tons (mainly carries). Cash cathodes, £761-61.5; three months, £7[illegible]. Settlement 764. Sales, 1,000 tons.

IN standard was steady but quiet.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £[illegible]50-70 a tonne; three months [illegible]. Sales, 355 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,650-70; three months [illegible]. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash £5,855-60; three months [illegible]. Settlement [illegible]860. Sales, [illegible] tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash £5,[illegible]; three months [illegible]. Settlement [illegible],860. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works, $M 30.60 a picul.

EAD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £[illegible]-80 per tonne; three months [illegible]. Sales, 4,250 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash £[illegible]; three months £294-4.50. Settlement £284.50. Sales, [illegible] tonnes.

INC was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash £[illegible].50 per tonne; three months £[illegible]. Sales, 4,300 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash £304-[illegible]; three months £320.50-21. Settlement, £304.50. Sales, 4,425 tonnes (mainly carries).

LATINUM was at £205.45 ($484.00) a troy ounce.

ILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot 560.75p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,3[illegible]); three months, 583.75p (1,3[illegible]); six months, 5[illegible]p (1,4[illegible]); one year, 625.00p (1,5[illegible].00c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 567-68p; three months, 584-85p. Sales, 32 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 56[illegible].5-70.5p; three months, 58[illegible]-87.5p. Settlement, 570.5p. Sales, 72 lots (mainly carries).

LUMINIUM was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £[illegible] per tonne; three months, £[illegible]. Sales, 2,550 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £[illegible]; three months, £[illegible]. Settlement, [illegible]510. Sales, 5,075 tonnes.

ICKEL was barely steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,71[illegible] per tonne; three months, £2,680-85. Sales, 228 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash £2,720-30; three months, £[illegible]. Settlement, £2,730. Sales, 10 tonnes.

UBBER was quiet (pence per kilo).—March, 5[illegible]-58.00; April, 5[illegible].00; April-June, 5[illegible]; July-Sept, 6[illegible].10-6[illegible].50; Oct-Dec, 6[illegible].40; Jan-March, 69.20-69.30; April-June, 72.20-72.30; July-Sept, 7[illegible]; Oct-Dec, 78.20-78.30. Sales, 26 lots at 15 tonnes.

UBBER PHYSICALS were quiet (all pence per kilo).—Spot, 56.50-58.00; [illegible] March, 61.00-61.75; April, 61.50-[illegible].

OFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March, 986-988; May, 1012-1014; July, 1024-1030; Sept, 1032-1035; Nov, 1042-1050; Jan, 1050-1075; March, 1050-1070. Sales, 1674 lots including 21 options.

RABICA (officials at 1645): Feb, [illegible]0.00-44.00; April, 142.00-46.00; June, 143.00-45.00; Aug, 1[illegible]; Oct, 144.00-47.00; Dec, 144.00-[illegible]7.00; Feb, 144.00-47.00.

OCOA was steady (£ per metric tonne).—March, 843-844; May, 869-870; July, 895-896; Sept, 917-918; Dec, [illegible]46-947; March, 970-971; May, 991-[illegible]92. Sales: 2191 lots.

UGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £17 higher at £252.00; the "whites" price was £13 higher at £285.00. Futures were irregular. (£ per tonne): March, 2[illegible].00-69.50; May, 273.75-73.95; Aug, 277.00-73.50; Oct, 268.50-68.75; Jan, 249.00-50.00; March, 250.00-51.50; May, 248.00-[illegible]0.00. ISA prices (Feb 3): daily [illegible]; 15-day average 25.[illegible]c.

OYABEAN MEAL was slightly easier (£ per tonne).—Feb, 119.00-20.00; April, 123.70-24.30; June, 127.00-[illegible]7.50; Aug, 129.00-29.20; Oct, [illegible]28.50-29.00; Dec, 129.50-30.50; Feb, [illegible]30.00-32.00. Sales, 90 lots.

WOOL (cents per kilo).—NZ Crossbreds No 2 contract was quiet.—March, 348-353; Aug, 357-365; Sept, 372-375; Oct, 378-392; Dec, 381-3[illegible]; Jan, 382-386; March, 385-389; May, [illegible]85-389; Aug, 387-391. Sales, nine lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring No 1 13½ per cent was unquoted.—US dark northern spring No 2 14 per cent March £112.00 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter 13½ per cent Feb, unquoted; March and April, £1[illegible].75 trans-shipment east coast; EEC was unquoted. English feed fob April-June, £11[illegible] east coast.

MAIZE.—US, French unquoted; S African white unquoted; S African yellow Feb-March, £86.50.

BARLEY.—English feed fob Feb-April, £10[illegible].75; April-June, £104.50 east coast (All per tonne cif UK unless stated).

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was barely steady: March, £96.85; May, £100.45; Sept, £95.20; Nov, £97.95; Jan, £101.55. Sales: 108 lots. WHEAT was barely steady: March, £106.45; May, £1[illegible]1.00; July, £104.90; Sept, £99.70; Nov, £105.45; Jan, £107.30. Sales: [illegible] lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
Eastern	£104.50	£105.70	£96.40
E Midlands	£107.00	£105.50	£96.50
N East	—	—	£95.20
Scotland	—	—	£91.80

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 4. GB cattle 84.20p per kg lw (+1.34). UK sheep 148.92p per kg est dcw (+10.58); GB pigs 66.24p per kg lw (+0.72). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 7.0 per cent, average price 84.55p (+1.50); Sheep numbers down 9.8 per cent, average price 148.86p (+11.22); Pig numbers up 4.1 per cent, average price 66.24p (+0.72). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 2.7 per cent, average price 82.64p (+0.86); Sheep numbers up 21.7 per cent, average price 144.23p (+5.20).

POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £42.10; April, £57.80; Nov, £73.70. Sales, 77 (all of 40 tonnes each).

US urged to renegotiate grain deal

A suggestion has been made that the US-Soviet grain agreement should be renegotiated to ensure higher Russian purchases of US grains than the eight million tonnes threshold in the present five-year agreement.

This move has been made by Mr William Wampler a ranking member of the House of Representatives Agriculture Committee and 17 Republicans who have outlined their plan to President Reagan.

An agreement that ensures greater Soviet grain purchases would "moderate the swings in demand and thus protect US commodity markets as well as strengthen Soviet dependency on US production," they told the President.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat Index on European share prices was put provisionally at 146.23 on February 3 against 146.32 a week earlier.

Jayplant: Company has purchased Solicraft, a plant hire company based in Bishop's Stortford and trading as Bishop's Stortford Plant Hire for £14,000, of which £12,000 was satisfied by share issue. Net asset value of the company as at December 31 was £3,000 and its pretax loss £2,000.

Discount market

There was an adequate supply of credit in the market yesterday.

Rates around the houses tended to be a bit mixed in the early stages. Bids were found within a range of 13¾ to 14 per cent and those in a hurry to track down the balances needed to pay in the upper reaches of that band.

By the end of the morning, however, rates were mainly in the area of 13¾-⅞, and they eased during the afternoon.

Foreign exchange report

After falling to 2.3410 early, the pound picked up to end higher on balance at 2.3575 (2.3515) against the dollar, though its trade-weighted level ended 0.1 off at 104.1 after 104.4 in mid-session.

Dealers said the market was more orderly yesterday, though some uncertainty remained over a possible MLR cut today.

Sterling went lower in terms of Europeans such as the Mark, (4.5500), and French franc 11.4775 4.9900 (5.0200), Swiss franc 4.5275 (11.5450), and also lost ground to the yen, 478.50 (480.00).

Ahead of today's expected policy speech from President Reagan, the dollar relinquished some of its recent good gains, and ended near the bottom of the day.

Following a busy overnight session in New York, necessitating substantial central banks intervention, the mark became much steadier after a denial that a West German support package was in the offing.

Nevertheless, market men keenly await tomorrow's traditional Bundesbank conference.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 4	Market rates (close) February 4	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3450-3600	$2.3570-3580	.70-.80c disc	2.35-2.45c disc
Montreal	$2.8040-8175	$2.8145-8155	.95-1.05c disc	3.05-3.15c disc
Amsterdam	5.39-45fl	5.40½-41½fl	2½-1½c prem	4½-3½c prem
Brussels	79.60-80.60f	79.65-75f	13-3c prem	18-8c prem
Copenhagen	15.29-41k	15.30¾-31¾k	280-95ore prem	45ore prem-140ore disc
Dublin	1.3340-3440p	1.3350-3360p	05p prem-10p disc	30-50p disc
Frankfurt	4.97-5.03m	4.98½-99½m	2-1pf prem	4¼-3¼pf prem
Lisbon	130.80-132.10e	130.00-131.10e	81c prem-06c disc	70c prem-100c disc
Madrid	196.50-197.50p	197.30-40p	19-98c disc	194-273c disc
Milan	2365-77lr	2366-67lr	8-10lr disc	34½-37½lr disc
Oslo	12.65-73k	12.65¾-66¾k	200-120ore prem	285-110ore prem
Paris	11.46-58f	11.47¼-48¼f	3¼-2¼c prem	6¼-5¼c prem
Stockholm	10.70-76k	10.74¼-75¼k	340-440ore disc	1270-1365ore disc
Tokyo	475-83y	478-79y	255-185y prem	570-500y prem
Vienna	35.20-55sch	35.28-33sch	13-10gro prem	29-23gro prem
Zurich	4.50-54f	4.53¼-54¼f	3-2c prem	7½-6½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.1% to 104.1%.

Other Markets

Australia	2.0050-2.0200
Bahrein	0.8830-0.8860
Finland	9.3940-9.4340
Greece	116.35-118.35
Hongkong	12.4055-12.4455
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6385-0.6415
Malaysia	5.2350-5.2650
Mexico	54.20-55.70
New Zealand	2.4690-2.4890
Saudi Arabia	7.8020-7.8320
Singapore	4.8640-4.8940
South Africa	1.7850-1.8000

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	104.1	−23.3
US dollar	98.6	−5.2
Canadian dollar	84.6	−18.6
Schilling	114.3	+21.0
Belgian franc	108.2	+10.0
Danish kroner	90.2	−0.7
Deutsche mark	118.4	+37.1
Swiss franc	134.0	+74.2
Guilder	113.0	+16.4
French franc	87.4	−8.7
Lira	61.6	−53.7
Yen	148.9	+44.7

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7640-1.7670
† Canada	1.1961-1.1964
Netherlands	2.2900-2.2930
Belgium	33.63-33.57
Denmark	6.4850-6.4900
West Germany	2.1115-2.1130
Portugal	55.45-55.55
Spain	83.65-83.75
Italy	1000.00-1002.00
Norway	5.3725-5.3775
France	4.8690-4.8740
Sweden	4.5450-4.5500
Japan	202.70-202.90
Austria	14.98-15.00
Switzerland	1.7640-1.7670

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8364-0.8367

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted*	divergence limit % plus minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.6522	+4.68	+0.48	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.97784	+3.29	−0.91	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.59960	+4.73	+0.43	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.98934	+2.43	−1.87	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82045	+2.80	−1.50	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.696603	+4.25	−0.05	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1231.97	+6.41	+2.11	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 17¼-18¼; seven days, 19¾-20¼; one month, 17½-17¾; three months, 16¹³⁄₁₆-17¼; six months, 16⁷⁄₁₆-16¹¹⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $504.25 (an ounce); pm, $505 close, $505.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $520-523 (£220.5-221.75).
Sovereigns (new): $127-129 (£53.75-54.75).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13¼
Week Fixed: 14

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12¹³⁄₁₆	2 months	12⅝
3 months	12⅞	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13¼-13⅛	3 months	13⅞
3 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12½	4 months	13
4 months	12⅞-13⅟₁₆	6 months	12½
6 months	11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11¾		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15¾-15¼	7 months	13-12¾
2 months	15¾-15½	8 months	13-12¾
3 months	14-13¾	9 months	13¼-12⅞
4 months	14½-14¼	10 months	13⅛-12⅞
5 months	14¼-14	11 months	13¼-12⅞
6 months	13-12¾	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	14-13⅞	6 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13¾-13¼	12 months	12½-12⅜

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14¼	3 months	13½
7 days	14½	6 months	12⅞
1 month	14¼	1 year	12¾

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¼-14⅛ Close 14½-14

1 week	14½-14⅛	6 months	12¹³⁄₁₆-12¹¹⁄₁₆
1 month	14⅟₁₆-13⅞	9 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13⅞-13¾	12 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¾ 6 months 13¼

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Wall Street

New York, Feb 4.—Stocks closed higher in moderate trading as the New York Stock Exchange index rose 0.16 to 73.64 and the average price per share eight cents. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 0.60 to 941.98 and advances led declines 914 to 566 as turnover eased slightly to 45,520,000 shares from 45,950,000 yesterday.

Volume leader UAL Incorporated, which reported improved earnings earlier this week, added ⅜ to 22⅛. Active Pan American, which reported sharply higher fourth quarter and year net, largely due to a gain on the sale of the Pan Am building in New York, added ⅛ to five. American Airlines rose one to 11⅛, Delta ⅜ to 65⅜, Usair ⅜ to 19⅜ and Trans World one to 21⅞.

Active American Telephone slipped ⅞ to 50⅜. It reported slightly higher 1980 earnings. IBM gained ⅞ to 64⅝ even though it said its profit margins will continue under pressure.

Car makers reported weak late January sales. Ford Motor eased ⅛ to 19⅞ and Chrysler ⅛ to 5⅜. But active General Motors rose one to 47⅞. It has been strong since saying late Monday that it believes its return to profitability in the fourth quarter will continue in 1981.

US commodities

GOLD dropped $5 to $391-$393 an ounce.—CHICAGO IMM.—April, $573.90 asked; June, $585.40 asked; July, $591.70 asked; Sept, $604.20 asked; Oct, $610.50 asked; Dec, $623.10 asked; Jan, $629.40 asked; March, $642.10 asked; April, $648.30 asked. NY COMEX.—Feb, $490.00-492.00; March, $494.00; April, $499.00-501.00; June, $510.00-513.00; Aug, $525.00; Oct, $537.30; Dec, $551.00; Feb, $562.00; April, $574.40; June, $586.90; Aug, $599.40; Oct, $611.90; Dec, $624.50.

SILVER futures fell in late dealings as weaker gold prices spurred speculative selling. Prices lost 12 to one cent with spot February down 11 cents, closing at $1,287.00 per troy ounce. Feb, 1,287.00c; March, 1,295.00-1,310.00c; April, 1,318.50c; May, 1,340.00-1,345.00c; July, 1,373.00-1,381.00c; Sept, 1,408.00-1,410.00c; Dec, 1,464.50c; Jan, 1,483.60c; March, 1,530.00c; May, 1,555.50c; July, 1,585.00c; Sept, 1,624.50c; Dec, 1,678.00c.

COPPER futures slipped in late trading to close with pared gains of 0.35 to 0.65 cent. Feb, 81.70c; March, 82.60-82.80c; April, 84.00c; May, 85.25-85.50c; July, 87.60-88.00c; Sept, 89.90c; Dec, 92.70c; Jan, 93.65c; March, 95.45c; May, 97.00c; July, 98.85c; Sept, 100.10c; Dec, 102.40c.

COTTON futures were: March, 90.50-90.70c; May, 91.35-91.40c; July, 91.40-91.70c; Oct, 86.91 bid-87.10c asked; Dec, 83.70c; March, 84.60 bid-84.90c asked; May, 85.10 bid-85.80c asked; July, 85.70 bid-86.10c asked.

COCOA futures erased most earlier gains to close mixed. Nearbys settled $5 lower to unchanged while back months added $1-$8. March, $1,904-1,870; May, $1,964-1,953; July, $2,027-2,001; Sept, $2,078-2,055; Dec, $2,150-2,130; March, $2,200-2,200.

COFFEE futures closed with losses of 3.11c in spot March at 116.38c and of 2.97c to 1.31c in other months. March, 116.50-116.75c; May, 122.25-122.50c; July, 125.00-125.25c; Sept, 127.35-127.50c; Dec, 127.75c; March, 125.00 bid, 125.50c asked; May, 126.50 bid, 127.00c asked; July, 118.00 bid, 135.00c asked.

SUGAR futures collapsed on huge late speculative selling. Losses ranged from 1.20 cents in the March contract, which settled at 25.35 cents a pound, to 0.60 cent in deferred months. March 25.30-25.45c; May, 26.00-26.10c; July, 26.30-26.40c; Sept, 25.79c; Oct, 25.45-25.50c; Jan, 23.30c nominal; March, 25.60-25.75c; May, 23.80c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS. Futures ended on the low side of a 19 cent range, down 10½ to 4½ cents a bushel in mostly local trade. Oil settled 0.48c to 0.26c a lb lower. Meal finished down $3.10 to $1.00 a ton. SOYABEANS.—March, 767½-738c; May, 794-776c; July, 816½-797c; Aug, 821-805½c; Sept, 820-808½c; Nov, 831½-819c; Jan, 848-838c; March, 867½-859c. SOYABEAN OIL.—March, 23.45-23.35c; May, 24.25-24.16c; July, 25.00c; Aug, 25.30c; Sept, 25.60c; Oct, 25.90c; Dec, 26.50c; Jan, 26.60-26.70c; March, 27.10 bid-27.20c asked. SOYABEAN MEAL.—March, $221.50-221.20; May, $229.50-229.80; July, $235.50; Aug, $238.00 bid-239.00 asked; Sept, $240.00 bid-241.00 asked; Oct, $239.00; Dec, $242.00; Jan, $243.50.

CHICAGO GRAINS. Wheat futures closed near the bottom of a nine cent range, down seven to six cents a bushel in light trade. Corn futures finished 3c a bushel lower in old crop to ¼c up in thinly traded new crop months. WHEAT. March, 480-471c; May, 497-478c; July, 474½-466c; Sept, 487½-477½c; Dec, 507½-500c. CORN. March, 363-361½c; May, 376½-371½c; July, 381½-377½c; Sept, 378-373½c; Dec, 375-370½c; March, 384-381c. OATS. March, 224½-219½c; May, 224-218½c; July, 214½-208c; Sept, 214½-210c; Dec, 224½-219c.

	Feb 4	Feb 3
Allied Chem	49¼	49½
Allied Stores	21¾	21
Allis Chalmers	24	23⅞
Alcoa	64½	64¼
Amax Inc	42	42
Amerada Hess	37⅝	37⅜
Am Airlines	11¼	10⅝
Am Brands	72½	73
Am Broadcast	27¾	28
Am Can	29½	29⅝
Am Cyanamid	30⅝	30⅞
Am Elec Power	16⅞	16⅞
Am Home	30	30
Am Motors	3⅞	3⅞
Am Nat Res	40⅝	40⅝
Am Standard	31	31¼
Am Telephone	50¼	51⅛
AMF Inc	21¼	21¼
Armco Steel	34⅞	35
Asarco	36⅛	36⅝
Ashland Oil	30⅝	30⅝
Atlantic Richfield	58⅞	59
Avco	26	26
Avon Products	34	34
Bankers Tst NY	32¾	32⅞
Bank of America	26⅞	26⅞
Bank of NY	34⅞	34⅝
Beatrice Foods	17⅝	17⅝
Bendix	61¼	61¼
Bethlehem Steel	25⅞	25⅞
Boeing	39⅛	38⅞
Boise Cascade	33⅝	35
Borden	26⅜	26⅜
Borg Warner	29⅝	29⅝
Bristol Myers	51	49⅞
BP	38⅞	38⅞
Burlington Ind	20⅝	19⅞
Burlington Nthn	65	65
Burroughs	49⅞	50⅛
Campbell Soup	32⅝	32⅝
Canadian Pacific	37⅞	36⅞
Caterpillar	54⅞	55
Celanese	64⅝	64½
Central Sova	15⅞	15⅛
Chase Manhat	45½	45⅞
Chem Bank NY	47⅛	47½
Chesapeake Ohio	41⅞	41⅞
Chrysler	5⅜	5⅛
Citicorp	22⅞	22⅞
Cities Service	45½	43⅞
Clark Equip	34⅞	34⅞
Coca Cola	33⅞	34¼
Colgate	14½	14¾
CBS	49⅞	48⅞
Columbia Gas	37⅞	37⅝
Combustion Eng	38⅞	38⅞
Comwlth Edison	18¾	18⅞
Conoco	60	59⅞
Cons Edison	24	24⅝
Cons Foods	25	25
Cons Power	16½	16½
Continental Grp	32⅝	32⅞
Control Data	62⅛	61⅞
Corning Glass	59¼	60
CPC Intnl	59⅞	59½
Crane	41⅞	40⅝
Crocker Int	36⅞	36⅞
Crown Zeller	43⅞	44⅞
Dart & Kraft	44⅞	44⅞
Deere	43½	43⅞
Delta Air	63½	64⅞
Detroit Edison	11⅞	11⅞
Disney	55	53⅞
Dow Chemical	33⅞	32⅞
Dresser Ind	44⅞	45⅞
Duke Power	17⅞	17⅞
Du Pont	43⅞	43⅞
Eastern Air	5⅛	5
Eastman Kodak	69⅝	69⅞
Eaton Corp	29	29⅞
El Paso Nat Gas	21⅞	21½
Equitable Life	11½	11
Esmark	52¼	51½
Evans P. D.	19⅞	19⅞
Exxon Corp	74⅞	75⅞
Fed Dept Stores	31⅞	32
Firestone	10⅛	10⅛
Fst Chicago	18¼	16
Fst Nat Boston	35⅝	35
Fst Penn Corp	4	4⅛
Ford	20⅞	20⅞
GAF Corp	11⅞	11⅞
Gen Dynamics	52⅞	52⅞
Gen Electric	64½	64⅞
Gen Foods	31⅞	31⅞
Gen Mills	25¼	25¼
Gen Motors	47⅞	46⅞
Gen Pub Util NY	4	4⅛
Gen Tel Elec	26⅞	26⅞
Gen Tire	20⅞	20⅝
Genesco	6	5⅞
Georgia Pacific	27⅞	27⅞
Getty Oil	78⅝	80
Gillette	29⅞	29⅝
Goodrich	22⅞	22⅞
Goodyear	15⅞	17⅞
Gould Inc	26⅞	26⅞
Grace	50⅞	51⅞
Gt Atltc & Pacific	5⅞	5⅞
Greyhound	14½	14⅞
Grumman Corp	23⅞	23⅞
Gulf Oil	39⅞	39½
Gulf & West	14⅞	14⅝
Heinz H. J.	47½	47⅞
Hercules	21⅞	20⅞
Honeywell	100	98⅝
IC Inds	30⅝	29⅞
Ingersoll	69½	69⅞
Inland Steel	30⅞	30⅞
IBM	64⅝	64⅞
Int Harvester	22⅞	24
INCO	19⅞	19⅞
Int Paper	42⅞	42⅞
Int Tel Tel	29⅞	29⅞
Irving Bank	49⅛	48
Jewel Co	36⅞	35½
Jim Walter	28⅞	28
Johns-Manville	21	21⅞
Johnson & John	95⅞	95⅞
Kaiser Alumin	21⅞	21⅞
Kennecott	24⅞	24⅞
Kerr McGee	70⅞	71
Kimberly Clark	57⅞	57½
K Mart	17⅞	17⅞
Kroger	19⅞	20½
L.T.V. Corp	21	20⅝
Litton	73⅞	71⅞
Lockheed	29	29½
Lucky Stores	14¼	14
Manuf Hanover	31⅞	31⅞
Mapco	43½	43½
Marathon Oil	65½	65⅞
Marine Midland	16¼	16
Martin Marietta	65⅞	64⅞
McDonnell	43½	43
Mead	26½	26⅞
Merck	81⅞	81½
Minnesota Mng	58⅞	58⅞
Mobil Oil	72⅞	71⅞
Monsanto	71	71
Morgan J. P.	50⅞	50⅞
Motorola	65⅞	65⅞
NCR Corp	59⅞	59⅞
NL Industries	65⅞	65
Nabisco	27⅞	27⅞
Nat Distillers	26	26⅞
Nat Steel	29½	29⅞
Norfolk West	42	41⅞
NW Bancorp	28⅞	29
Norton Simon	15⅞	15
Occidental Pet	30⅞	30⅞
Ogden	32⅞	32⅞
Olin Corp	20⅞	20⅞
Owens-Illinois	21	21
Pacific Gas Elec	21	21
Pan Am	5	4⅞
Penney J. C.	22⅞	22⅞
Pennzoil	42⅞	41⅞
Pepsico	30	30¼
Pfizer	49¼	49½
Phelps Dodge	34⅞	34⅞
Philip Morris	44⅞	43⅞
Phillips Petrol	50⅞	50⅞
Polaroid	24⅞	24⅞
PPG Ind	41⅞	42
Proctor Gamble	69½	67
Pub Ser E & G	18⅞	18½
Rapid American	25½	25½
Raytheon	93⅞	94⅞
RCA Corp	27	27
Republic Steel	25⅞	25⅞
Reynolds Ind	45¼	45⅞
Reynolds Metal	24⅞	24⅞
Rockwell Int	37½	37⅞
Royal Dutch	90⅞	90⅞
Safeways	31	31⅞
St Regis Paper	35	34¼
Santa Fe Ind	92⅞	94
SCM	24⅞	25½
Schlumberger	104⅞	104⅞
Scott Paper	23	23⅞
Seagram	55⅞	55⅞
Sears Roebuck	15⅞	15½
Shell Oil	47⅞	46⅞
Shell Trans	40⅞	39⅞
Signal Co	25	25⅞
Singer	14⅞	14
Sony	15	15
Sth Cal Edison	23⅞	24
Southern Pacific	40⅞	41
Southern Rly	82⅞	82
Sperry Corp	51⅞	54⅞
Std Brands	27⅞	27⅞
Std Oil Califnia	89½	88⅞
Std Oil Indiana	64⅞	65½
Std Oil Ohio	59⅞	60⅞
Sterling Drug	21⅞	21⅞
Stevens J. P.	14⅞	14
Sunbeam Corp	17½	17⅞
Sun Comp	37⅞	38⅞
Teledyne	186⅞	187⅞
Tenneco	45⅞	45⅞
Texaco	41⅞	41⅞
Texas East Corp	66⅞	64½
Texas Inst	112	111⅞
Texas Utilities	17⅞	17⅞
Textron	29⅞	29⅞
TWA	21⅞	20⅞
Travelers Corp	39⅞	39⅞
TRW Inc	55⅞	55⅞
UAL Inc	22½	21⅞
Union Carbide	55	54½
Union Oil Calif	39⅞	39
Un Pacific Corp	70⅞	70⅝
Uniroyal	6⅛	6
United Brands	15⅞	15⅞
US Industries	9⅞	9⅞
US Steel	27⅞	27⅞
Utd Technol	56⅞	55⅞
Wachovia	17⅞	18⅞
Warner Lambert	22	21⅞
Wells Fargo	29⅞	30⅞
West'n Bancorp	34⅞	33
Westinghse Elec	29½	29⅞
Weyerhaeuser	36⅞	35⅞
Whirlpool	19⅞	19⅞
White Motor	3⅞	3⅞
Woolworth	25	25
Xerox Corp	55⅞	55⅞
Zenith	15⅞	16

Canadian Prices

	Feb 4	Feb 3
Abitibi	25	25⅞
Alcan Alumin	40⅞	39⅞
Algoma Steel	42	43½
Bell Telephone	19	19⅞
Cominco	67	67
Cons Bathurst	22⅞	22½
Gulf Oil	24½	24⅞
Hawker Sid Can	23⅞	23⅞
Hudson Bay Min	31⅞	30⅞
Hudson Bay Oil	21	21
Imasco	31⅞	31⅞
Imperial Oil	34⅞	34⅞
Int Pipe	15⅞	15½
Mass-Fergsn	5⅞	5⅞
Royal Trust	19⅞	19⅞
Seagram	69⅞	67
Steel Co	34⅞	34⅞
Thomson N 'A'	21⅞	21⅞
Walker Hiram	27⅞	27½
WCT	14⅞	15

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot, 2.3475 (2.3540); three months, 2.3710 (2.3785); Canadian dollar 1.1947 (1.1962).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 941.98 (941.38); transportation, 400.52 (396.58); utilities, 110.81 (111.21); 65 stocks, 367.80 (366.71). New York Stock Exchange index, 73.64 (73.48); industrials, 85.85 (85.65); transportation, 74.57 (73.62); utilities, 37.57 (37.62); financial, 68.56 (68.54).

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury. Bucks 0296-5941			
[illegible]	47.1	American Growth	55.1	59.3e	2.46
[illegible]	[illegible]	Capital	44.4	47.6	5.10
[illegible]	44.0	General	54.1	58.5e	5.25
[illegible]	200.7	Gilt & Fixed Int	206.2	211.5e	11.72
[illegible]	27.3	Income	[illegible]	35.5e	9.48
[illegible]	91.7	Worldwide	91.5	95.8	6.92
[illegible]	34.3	Investment	[illegible]	51.7	4.91
87.0	67.5	Equities Prog	[illegible]	83.8	4.99
		Allen Trust Managers Ltd.			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
46.4	28.8	International	45.6	49.5	1.77
24.6	22.8	Pref & Gilts	21.5	23.3e	13.96
27.1	23.7	Smaller Co's	25.4	27.6e	3.99
		Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh. 031-226 4931			
41.9	25.2	American Fnd	37.9	40.8	0.92
75.9	58.9	International	73.8	79.7	1.80
52.0	41.7	Reserves Fnd	47.6	51.4e	5.59
43.7	40.4	High Dist	41.6	44.2	11.63
		E. F. Winchester Fund Mngt Ltd. 44 Bloomsbury Sq, WC1A 2RA. 01-623 8893			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		M & G Securities. Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588			
62.6	48.2	Amer & Gen Inc	57.5	61.8e	2.17
66.5	58.0	Do Accum	61.8	66.4	2.17
64.6	45.1	Amer Recovery	62.6	67.0	1.83
66.5	45.3	Do Accum	64.4	69.3	1.83
140.7	71.1	Australasian Inc	109.6	117.3	0.66
146.9	52.4	Do Accum	114.5	122.5	0.66
142.5	103.6	Commod & Gen	131.6	142.1e	3.34
165.6	116.7	Do Accum	154.7	167.1	3.34
175.4	131.9	Compound	175.3	187.6	3.29
127.1	83.5	Conv Tst Grwth	110.4	118.1	2.97
71.4	71.8	Do Income	64.2	73.0	11.50
171.9	147.2	Charifund* (3)	153.5	155.9e	9.29
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 48 St Martin's Lane, WC2N 4EF. 01-240 3434			
169.2	122.3	Capital (2)	157.9	169.7	2.80
217.1	153.5	Do Accum	202.7	217.9	2.80
226.7	182.1	Income (2)	204.0	219.3e	8.61
391.6	285.0	Do Accum	352.0	378.4	8.61
123.6	95.3	General (3)	117.8	126.6e	4.41
165.0	125.0	Do Accum	159.5	171.5	4.41
26.4	22.0	Europe (25)	20.8	22.3	3.50
29.9	28.8	Do Accum	24.3	26.1	3.50
137.0	140.0	Smaller Co's	137.0	147.0e	3.17
		Scottish Equitable Fund Managers Ltd. 28 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh. 031-556 9101			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Barclays Life Assurance Co. Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, E7. 01-534 5544			
158.1	115.7	Barclaybonds	153.4	161.5	..
154.2	129.5	Equity 'B' Bond	146.5	154.3	..
125.4	112.1	Gilt Edge 'B' Bnd	121.3	127.7	..
158.1	136.8	Prop 'B' Bond	154.9	163.1	..
113.1	98.1	Int R Bond	103.1	108.9	..
137.7	120.3	Man 'B' Bond	132.1	139.1	..
120.9	115.1	Money 'B' Bond	120.9	127.3	..
154.3	121.3	Man Pen Acc	149.7	157.6	..
140.3	113.0	Do Initial	135.3	142.8	..
138.6	115.3	Gilt E Pen Acc	135.6	142.8	..
128.1	106.0	Do Initial	119.5	125.8	..
137.2	122.4	Money Pen Acc	137.2	144.5	..
122.8	112.2	Do Initial	122.0	128.5	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Irish Life Assurance. 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253			
245.4	226.1	Prop Modules	214.8	226.1	..
260.5	269.4	Do Growth (31)	256.0	269.4	..
134.0	126.2	Do Series 2	119.9	126.2	..
150.2	135.9	Exmpt Managed	134.8	141.9	..
267.6	251.7	Managed Fnd	251.5	264.7	..
118.7	103.7	Do Series 2	101.1	106.4	..
48.2	75.9	Blue Chip Fnd	79.4	83.6	..
116.7	98.9	Do Series 2	106.6	112.2	..
		Langham Life Assurance. Langham Hse, Holmbrook Dr, NW4. 01-203 5211			
184.4	168.5	Property Bond	184.4	194.1	..
86.1	77.0	Wisp Spec Man	86.1	90.6	..
71.9	68.8	Langham A Plan	71.9	75.7	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Prudential Pensions Ltd. Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222			
36.10	28.90	Equity	£ 35.24	36.33	..
24.00	20.30	Fixed Int	£ 23.84	24.15	..
42.43	35.80	Property	£ 42.43	43.74	..
		Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. Tunbridge Wells, Kent 0892 22271			
304.0	284.3	Prop (1st Issue)	..	305.0	..
94.2	100.0	Prop (2nd Issue)	98.2	101.2	..
95.4	99.2	Managed Fund	95.4	100.4	..
		Save & Prosper Group. 4 Great St Helen's, EC3P 3EP. 01-554 8899			
170.0	148.1	Balanced Bond	167.1	176.9	..
147.7	131.6	Gilt Fnd	145.6	154.1	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd. 41-43 Maddox St, London, W1R9LA. 01-499 4923			
198.1	167.4	Managed Fund	191.1	201.2	..
338.8	239.4	Do Equity	318.6	335.4	..
191.3	173.3	Do Fixed Int	190.0	109.0	..
205.5	187.2	Do Property	205.5	216.4	..
147.0	139.1	Do Cash	147.0	154.8	..
122.2	94.8	Do Int	119.0	125.3	..
		Vanbrugh Pensions Limited			
142.4	121.0	Managed Fnd	138.6	145.9	..
167.4	122.0	Equity Fnd	157.3	165.8	..
131.8	118.3	Fixed Int Fnd	127.6	134.4	..
139.1	122.7	Property Fnd	139.1	145.4	..
16.50	12.12	Guar Fnd	..	32.12	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Insurance Bonds and Funds			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Offshore and International Funds			
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Thin conditions persist

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 26. Dealings End, Feb 6. § Contango Day, Feb 9. Settlement Day, Feb 16

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

MEDIUMS

LONGS

UNDATED

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
120⅞	91⅝	Scot Met Props	120	..	3.9b	3.2	33.-
154	93	Slough Ests	147	+3	3.6	2.4	27.
340½	234½	Stock Conv	335	..	5.0	1.5	37.
31¼	15¾	Town & City	29¾	+¼	0.0e	..	..
160	111	Trafford Park	155	+1	8.6	5.5	18.
233	205	Trust Secs	233	..	..	..	..
24½	14	Webb J.	23	..	0.7	3.2	12
28¼	21	Wereldhave	£21	..	125	6.0	12.
63	27½	W'mster & C'ty	56	..	4.3	7.7	4.

RUBBER

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
130	75	Barlow Hldgs	110	..	4.3	3.9	..
555	305	Castlefield	460	..	8.6	1.9	..
57½	39½	Cons Plant	47	..	3.5	7.4	..
198	115	Doranakande	160	..	4.3	2.7	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	662	• -13	42.9	6.5	..
252	153	Harrisons Malay	180	-1	11.4	6.4	..
61½	45	Highlds & Low	50	-1	2.1	4.3	..
740	485	Hongkong	740	..	60.0	8.1	..
545	363	Killinghall	540	..	20.0	3.7	..
465	290	Ldn Sumatra	351	+3	11.4	3.5	..
130	68	Majedie	103	..	3.2	3.1	..

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
248	198	Assam Frontier	198	..	14.3	7.2	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	425	..	5.7	1.3	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	293	..	21.4	7.3	..
332	263	Moran	280	..	11.4	4.1	..
158	108	Surmah Valley	108	..	3.2	3.0	..
211	132¾	Warren Plant	205	-1	14.3b	7.0	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	29	-1	6.8	23.3	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£34½	..	500	14.5	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£22	..	153	7.0	8.1
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	233	..	10.1	4.3	11.0
185	93	Milford Docks	126	..	9.8	7.8	..
136	88	Nesco Inv	128	..	10.0	7.8	..
34½	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£34½	..	538	15.6	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

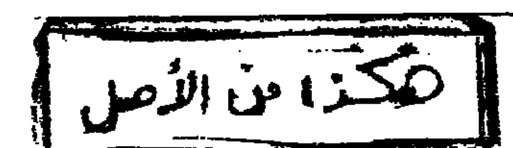
RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Allied London Prop 8½% Cnv 1999 (‡)	£103¼
Bell A. 9½% Conv 1999-2001	£96¼+½
Chester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡)	£106
Dunbar Group £1 Ord (303)	420-15
East Anglian Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡)	£106
East Worcester Water 9% Red Pref 1985 (‡)	£108
Essex Water 8½% Red Pref 1985 (‡ b)	£105
Exchequer 12% Cnv 1985 (£97† g)	£40¾
Exchequer 12% 'A' 1998 (†)	£91¾+¼
Exchequer 12¼% 'B' 1999 († h)	£20¼+⅛
Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£44¼
New Tokyo Inv Trust 50p Ord	112
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (‡)	£16¾
Treasury 11½% 1989 'A' († a)	£59¼+⅛
Treasury 11¾% 2003-2007 'A' (†)	£38¼+¼

RIGHTS ISSUES

	Latest date of renun	
Norcros (60‡)	Mar 27	14 prem+½

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid. b £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £20 paid.



هكذا من الأصل

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

Senior Secretaries: CITY
Your future and the energy business

BP is playing a key role in searching out and developing the world's energy resources. Its philosophy is forward looking and its technology sophisticated.

Our senior managers require fast and efficient back-up from their secretaries, who get involved in a wide variety of activities which frequently require acting on their own initiative. There are excellent promotion opportunities based on merit.

Aged 26 or over, you must be experienced with first-class secretarial skills.

Our modern offices are close to Moorgate and Liverpool Street stations. 36¼ hour week. An exceptional benefits package includes:

- Excellent salary plus London Allowance
- Annual and merit salary reviews
- Staff restaurant offering subsidised 5p lunches
- Interest free season ticket loans
- Non-contributory pension
- Licensed bar for the evenings
- Superb sports and social facilities.

Please write with full details of qualifications and experience, quoting reference A.947, to: Mrs. M. Ogborn, Secretarial Recruitment, The British Petroleum Company Limited, Britannic House, Moor Lane, London EC2Y 9BU.

The British Petroleum Company Ltd. BP

Experienced Secretary
J&B Rare Scotch Whisky
£5,250 p.a.

Our European Director is looking for a Secretary with excellent shorthand/typing skills and, preferably, 'A' level English. This vacancy occurs due to the promotion of his current Secretary and increasing pressure of work within the department.

We have an excellent subsidised restaurant/bar and other fringe benefits.

For further information or an application form, please telephone Miss Shirley Sell on 01-935 4446.

Or write to her at:—

International Distillers & Vintners Limited,
1 York Gate, Regents Park,
London NW1 4PU.
(Near Baker Street Tube).

TOP OF THE TREE £7,000 NEG. + CAR

You'll be assisting a PR Councillor based in the City who is involved with a great deal of top level PR activity. You'll need excellent secretarial/PA skills and a very mature, responsible attitude to your work. He travels around quite a lot so you'll be expected to cope on your own. Excellent working conditions and you will be out and about quite a bit too.

MEDIA WHIZ £5,300 PLUS, PLUS!

Your new boss is part of a young, friendly team at this well known media specialist business. You'll need good sec. skills, telex and accurate typing, and above all, an extrovert, happy personality. They are a really nice crowd and also extremely professional. 20+. Bonus.

JUNIOR ACCOUNT EXEC. £4,000 WITH PROSPECTS!

You'll be assisting an account executive at this top London advertising agency and he will be training you. You'll need to be presentable, preferably a graduate and any other commercial skills would be a bonus. Hard work, long hours, but a real career.

PR JUNIOR CONSULTANT £4,000 NEG

Great opportunity to train in a top PR consultancy and learn the PR ropes. You'll need good s/h and typing, plus a bubbly vivacious personality. There's plenty of involvement with the press, clients and setting up exhibitions. Good fun and great prospects.

Please phone Linnette Boniface or Kate Lawrence on 01-493 6458.
71 New Bond Street, London W1
ADPOWER RANDSTAD STAFF CONSULTANTS

adpower randstad

OPPORTUNITIES— WEST GERMANY

A subsidiary of a major US Aerospace Company in Frankfurt/Main, West Germany is offering talented applicants a challenging and rewarding position in the following areas:

SECRETARIAL

Applicants must be fluent in English and have a good working knowledge of German. Must also have excellent typing, administrative and organizational skills.

CLERK TYPIST

Must be fluent in English and have a good working knowledge of German. As well as typing, skills must include the ability to work with numbers in the preparation of invoices, shop work-orders and custom forms.

Please apply to:

Bendix International Service Corporation
536 Kings Road
London SW10 0UH
Ref. ASH/lf

Career Girl

More than a Sec — £7,000
In office management you'll have your own office, freedom to express yourself in your own way, have job involvement and interest, a charming M.D. and an excellent salary. You'll be in charge of the staff of these city merchants. Shorthand, typing is essential, so it won't go rusty.

Fluent Arabic — £7,000
This Fleet Street newspaper requires a fast-moving and alert Sec/PA who is not only fluent in Arabic but is familiar with the customs and endearments of the East. Naturally the work is really rewarding.

Advertising Copy — £5,000+
No shorthand in the Media Dept. of a famous advertising agency. There are some schedules to type but the duties are mainly secretarial. You get paid overtime and an extra afternoon free each month.

Send us your C.V. in Confidence
We will then help you find your ideal job.
Phone Jan Salmon
Olivia Lloyd
Breda Luddy

236 1221

Career Girl 40 Bow Lane EC4 (off Cheapside)
EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

OUTSTANDING PA/SECRETARY

Chairman (40) of international export company involved in defence equipment sales requires a personal assistant/secretary.

Ideal applicant will be experienced at senior level and have a strong organisational flair added to all round ability.

This is a stimulating career position and is likely to involve travel. Skill, integrity and loyalty will be generously rewarded.

Write detailed letter of application to:—
RICHARD J. R. UNWIN
RICHARD UNWIN INTERNATIONAL LTD.
21/22 GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON, W1

SECRETARY AND RECEPTIONIST/ SECRETARY

The first position is in our personnel department and experience of similar work is preferable. Must have good Sh/T and admin. ability. Age 23+.

The second position is in our Women's Wholesale Division and calls for good Sh or audio typing speeds plus pleasing personality and appearance. Age 25-35.

Good salaries and excellent benefits including generous discount on clothes.

Apply for interviews
Personnel department
AQUASCUTUM LTD.
100 Regent St.,
London, W.1.
Tel.: 01-734 6090

SECRETARY/AIR STEWARD/ESS

Age 24 to 35 required for this demanding but very interesting position with an International Group of Companies. Working mainly in their London Offices, there is a certain amount of flying involved on their Executive Aircraft. It will suit someone prepared to work flexible hours.

This vacancy will be offered to a career minded person who has an outstanding past record, bilingual command of English/French and preferably a knowledge of Spanish. Only those with experience in both fields need apply.

An excellent salary and other benefits commensurate with the position offered.

Please send Curriculum Vitae and names of three referees to **Box 2412 F, The Times.**

Secretary to Managing Director

To work in prestige offices in Ealing for the Managing Director of one of the U.K.'s leading suppliers of high quality popular games and jigsaw puzzles. Applicants should have at least five years' secretarial experience in a senior capacity and will therefore probably be not less than 25. Typing and shorthand speeds must be of a high standard and applicants must be able to communicate effectively at all levels. Salary will depend on experience and ability. Please write with detailed c.v. to:

Miss Margaret Harrison, Personnel Assistant, Milton Bradley Europe,
St. Martin's House, 1 Hammersmith Grove
London W6 0NU. Tel. 01-741 4411.

CRCRCR CRCRCRCR CRCR CR

Charles of the Ritz

A SECRETARY TO THE MARKETING MANAGER
c. £5800

Previous secretarial experience essential together with good shorthand typing speeds.
This is a busy interesting office, working on marketing projects for the U.K. and dealing on a day to day basis with New York and Paris.
Applicants should be looking for total job involvement and we envisage would not be under 25 years of age.
Company pensions scheme, 4 weeks holiday and free cosmetics. Please telephone 01-629 8371 extn 32.

CRCRCR CRCRCR CRCRCRCR

RARE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK IN RADIO

We sell airtime on behalf of several independent radio stations and we need a secretary for the General Sales manager. Applicants should be experienced, outgoing adaptable and presentable. In return we can offer total involvement in a stimulating and friendly environment, an attractive salary plus a bonus scheme. If this interests you contact Kathryn Smith Radio Sales and marketing on

01-242 0727

Rare Bird with Fine Plumage

Regular habitat London, prospect of occasional flights to more exotic parts, including USA.

Marketing role in international publications company for a very intelligent attractive creative person with initiative and business acumen. Must be ambitious too, with languages—and the ability to learn a great deal. Graduate, aged 25+. Very attractive salary. Plus exceptional prospects for advancement.

Please write with CV to:
P. Hartley
TEK INTERNATIONAL LTD.
11 UXBRIDGE ROAD
SHEPHERDS BUSH
LONDON W12 8LH

NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND
ASSISTANT TO THE FUND'S SECRETARY
£5,000+ (inc. London Weighting)

Applications are invited for the above post. The successful applicant is likely to be between 20 and 30 years of age with top Secretarial skills, a good knowledge of running a filing system, and be capable of working in a small unit. A non-contributory pension scheme is being arranged.

Applications in confidence by 13th February, giving full career details and qualifications to:

The Secretary,
National Heritage Memorial Fund,
Church House,
Great Smith St., London, SW1P 3BL

INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE SEARCH FIRM

with its London offices in Mayfair is urgently looking for a

TOP SECRETARY

In addition to normal senior secretarial duties the job would also entail responsibilities for the development and administration of the business.

We are looking for a mature person with a positive personality, good presentation, pleasant telephone manner, excellent typing ability (reports are generally short) and some understanding of business abroad. Some linguistic ability (French, German, Dutch) would be very helpful.

Aged 30-40. Salary at least £6,500 to start.

Please write or phone DOLF KOHNHORST, 17 STRATTON STREET, W.1. 01-409 0092.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

PA/SECRETARY
Public Relations
Broxbourne
to £5,000

OSL and Wings are market leaders in the travel industry with a reputation for quality holidays worldwide.

We are seeking someone with:

- a high standard of secretarial skills, including shorthand;
- experience in journalism or agency work (preferable but not essential);
- all-round organising ability;
- a smart appearance and good telephone manner.

Working within the Marketing Division, you will provide secretarial service for two managers in Public Relations which includes preparing and despatching press releases, monitoring budget expenditure, and maintaining departmental records.

An excellent range of company benefits includes generous overseas holiday concessions.

Please apply to Mrs Theresa Leary, Personnel Officer, OSL House, Broxbourne, Herts. Telephone: Hoddesdon 67211.

NEWSPAPERS (AND) ADVERTISING

Bright young P.A./Sec with s/h for busy Charing Cross Executive, handling newspaper advertising and associate promotion. To £5,000-mid-twenties.
COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
53 Fleet Street, E.C.4.
01-353 7696

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS and Designers. Permanent/temporary positions. AMSA Specialist Agency. 01-734 0532.

SECRETARIES for vacancies for City Int. Co.: £5,700+ perks: good opportunities for young Secs., Sales dept. Ring Jenny, Fitzroy Rec. Cons. 434 1004.

JUNIOR Secretary/Clerk near Bond St. Tube: £60 p.w. + L.V.s: season ticket loan. Incorporated Society of Musicians. 01-629 4413.

FRENCH "A" level. English SH. 23+: £5,500. Language Staff Agency, 455 8922.

SECRETARY, Richmond, Surrey to join Architectural Practice. Salary negotiable. See La Creme de la Creme today.

EXPERIENCED Secretary/PA. Mayfair for partner US law firm. See Creme de la Creme.

TELEPHONIST with good manner and secretarial abilities required at Searcy's the caterers. Free lunches and 4 weeks holiday. 01-584 3344. Joanna Hicks.

CIRCA £7,000 p.a.—Bi-lingual secretary. English/French. 30+ for president Int. W.1 co. English mother tongue and top formal skills in both languages. Knowledge of Spanish. Interesting responsibilities inc. some recruitment. Bonus and fringe benefits. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010.

SENIOR SEC. needed. Portuguese mother tongue. £7,000. 25-35. for our client, a major professional organisation. Fluent Portuguese. Modern offices plus excellent benefits. 70/110. English secretarial skills needed. 01-499 2921/491 8868. Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

Guy's Hospital Medical School
EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

required as soon as possible to work for Professor and Unit of Gastroenterology. Applicants must be competent shorthand-typists.

Salary in range £3,995-£4,834 plus £527 London Weighting, with allowances for special skills. Good superannuation scheme.

Apply in writing, stating age and giving details of qualifications and experience and the names of two referees, to the Secretary, Guy's Hospital Medical School, London Bridge, SE1 9RT, quoting Ref. G.1.

MUSIC CO CLASSICS DEPT YOUNG SEC

West End music co. require a person aged 21-28, with a strong bias towards classical music. Speeds ideally 50/90 S. hand. Excellent opening. Contact Mr Cochrane 606 2411.

C & S Personnel Consultants

INTERNATIONAL CHARITY
£5,000+

Work for the European director of this well established charity and step into a new position which deals with ministerial and top level contacts. Use your languages and your flair for organization and diplomacy. If you have secretarial experience call Jill McArdle on 486 7896. DRAKE PERSONNEL (CONSULTANTS)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY required by Private Secretary at Arab league office. College leaver welcomed. Start ASAP. Salary £4,320. Tel. Miss Wallace on 493 6409.

INVOLVEMENT IN YOUR WORK.—£6,500 as P.A. Sec. to Sales Director of well known British firm. Your busy day will involve all types of correspondence, planning of meetings as well as extensive telephone work. If you've had experience in a senior Sec. position, have excellent shorthand and typing with 'A' level education, please telephone 930 5051. Lucy Marks Personnel (Staff Consultants).

NEW DEPARTMENT, S.W.1 surveyors need P.A. Sec., 20ish to assist buying and selling property. Good command of English, some audio, a little shorthand, reasonably numerate. Some interesting social activities. £5,500 p.a. to start. Early review. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010.

PUBLIC RELATIONS P.A. Sec., 25ish, with strong personality to assist with all PR for international Mayfair co. Good formal skills and ambitious approach. £5,800 to start plus fringe benefits. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau, 589 8807/0010.

IN KENSINGTON | Highly successful world wide property developers seek P.A./Sec., 25ish. Good formal skills, some numeracy. Ambitious and adaptable. £6,000 p.a. neg. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010.

£6,600 p.a. neg.—International management consultants in Mayfair needs top P.A. Sec., 26-35. Good formal skills, preferably usable French and German for frequent contact with colleagues abroad. High powered assignment calling for top executive abilities, and scope for advancement. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010.

INTERNATIONAL Real Estate Development is fascinating and you will be part of it as Sec. to two partners of world's leading firm. Correspondence, reports, telephone and personnel work are all part of looking after these two easy-going executives. Professional company experience is preferred with an ideal age of mid-20s. £5,500. Lovely offices and good benefits. Tel. 930 5051. Lucy Marks Personnel (Staff Consultants).

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY (20+)
With good secretarial skills to work with and assist PA to Director and General Manager of Group of Companies with optical interests. Interesting and varied work, dealing with all aspects of Head Office administration. Near Oxford Circus. Please telephone Miss Christine Webb on
580 4343

BROWSE & DARBY GALLERY
REQUIRE RESPONSIBLE, EFFICIENT SECRETARY
APPLY IN WRITING
19, CORK STREET,
LONDON, W1

HOW ABOUT FRANKFURT? Secretary with English and German shorthand for two directors. Min. 1 yr contract, super offices, interesting job. £6,750 p.a. For an early interview please phone Elkie BIS 01-439 0576 Rec cons.

ARCHITECTS, W.1, require an experienced secretary with good shorthand typing speeds to work for partners. Salary £6,300 p.a. For further details ring Mrs Fisker. 935 0288.

NON-SECRETARIAL

BELGRAVIA. Picture Gallery. Capable person required with selling experience.—See La Creme de la Creme.

S.W.1. Receptionist/typist for modern offices.—See La Creme de la Creme.

TRADER for international stockbrokers, preferably with New York stock exchange experience or graduate with economic degree. Super salary commensurate with qualifications. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010

PART-TIME VACANCIES

MATURE PART TIME SECRETARY with personality & good telephone manner for busy flat letting company. Some experience wages/PAYE preferred. (Approx hours, 11-5.30 daily). 01-373 6265 or 01-499 5108.

MEDICAL SECRETARY with short hand, required for Harley Street Surgeon, one day per week. Telephone: 486 1138.

TEMPTING TIMES

NEW HORIZONS are always interested to hear from experienced secretaries with compatible skills to join their team of professional Temporary Staff 01-584 4223.

SECRETARY.— Public relations. Close Oxford Street. 19-25. Offices modern and smart so must you be. £20+ per day. Ring Jan Davey, Kingsway Temporary Staff Consultants, 1 Kingsway, W.C.2 Tel. 836 9272

RECEPTION SECRETARY close Charing Cross. London office of European corporation. Stimulating, busy environment. PABX1. £25 per day, 5 day week. Call Adrienne Ryde at Kingsway Temporary Staff Consultants, 1 Kingsway, W.C.2. Tel. 836 9272.

STEPPING STONES

COOL HEADED PERSON FRIDAY

needed now for bedlamish publishing office. Applicants should also have head well fixed to shoulders to enable initiative and commonsense to be used daily. Reception and switchboard experience highly desirable, typing essential. Hotheads, the faint-of-heart and layabouts need not apply.

PHONE MARILYN 01-606 7836

LA CREME DE LA CREME

SECRETARY HOLLAND PARK, W.11

An expanding residential property development company needs a competent secretary. Self-motivation and sound secretarial skills essential, age not important. Pleasant working conditions and friendly atmosphere. Salary £5,000-£5,500. a.a.e.

Please ring Jane Welch on 01-221 7466

Secretary/PA to General Manager RoC

Lively, efficient, experienced secretary required at the Mayfair HO of this fast growing cosmetics company. Good French an asset.

Excellent salary and prospects.

Write or phone in confidence to:

Mr. J. F. PEARCY,
RoC,
46 MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W1.
01-493 7785

MEDICAL SECRETARY

Prestigious private psychiatric hospital, located in Roehampton, seeks responsible, precise individual with excellent skills for Consultants' work.

Please reply to:
The Medical Secretary,
The Priory,
Priory Lane,
London SW15.
01-876 8261

BELGRAVIA PICTURE GALLERY

Capable person required, with initiative and experience in selling. Some typing.

PHONE:
235 4526
between 10 and 5 p.m.

PA/SEC, NW4
£6,500

Export company are looking for a top secretary to work for their managing director. Excellent secretarial skills and an unflappable nature, good telephone manner essential.

Ideally, you will be 25+ and will receive excellent benefits and holidays.

Phone Sally Halon on
202 4411

SECRETARY ASSISTANT
ESTATE AGENTS

London Office (Mayfair) of an old established national firm require a very efficient, cheerful secretary to join the London residential department to carry out secretarial duties and assist generally our very busy negotiating team.

Please contact Patricia McGrath 01-409 9671

VICTORIA
£6,500
French and/or German

In addition to excellent English secretarial skills are the ideal qualifications needed to work at Director level for this international manufacturing company. Non-linguists will be considered if their career shows Director level experience within a major company. Speeds 100/60. Age 25-40.

ANGELA MORTIMER LTD.
Recruitment Consultants
623 9686
166 Piccadilly

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY
DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

Young person for hard but interesting secretarial work for the Director of this active society in pleasant surroundings in Kensington.

Enquiries to Mrs Boys
589 0648.

SECRETARY
RICHMOND, SURREY

Experienced secretary required to join Architectural Practice. This is a varied and rewarding job working with confidentiality within an established organization. Humour and discretion essential as well as administrative ability. Salary negotiable. Application with resumé to Colin Bennett, Clifford Culpin & Partners, Hogarth House, Paradise Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1SE.

MAIDENHEAD
£8,000+

If you have proven management experience, have a complete understanding and previous implementation of computer-based systems plus sound administration (age 30-40) and looking for career prospects, please ring
01-730 2212 (24 hrs.)
consultants

JAYGAR CAREERS LTD

MAYFAIR SECRETARY

Nothing exceptional but must be hardworking, resilient, resourceful, intelligent, personable, flexible and have sense of humour. Age twenties. Salary by arrangement. Immediate start.

Phone: 409 0368

JUST JOBS
THE PERSONAL TOUCH

Advertising
Secs-client service, £4,750-£5,200. Top RECEPTIONIST, £5,000 neg.——Research assistant with typing, £5,000.—PA to PR executive, £6,000.

Property
Secretary to W1 company, £6,000-£6,500.

Why not call us for a chat about the job you are looking for
MAGGIE SHUCK
219 KENSINGTON HIGH ST., W8
938 1978 — Rec cons

P.A. TO EDITOR
circa £6,300

This is an exciting and important job for a P.A. Secretary with poise and social confidence who wants to become really involved in a busy and demanding job. Excellent English and shorthand/typing are needed. Good conversational French and ability to use initiative and liaise well at all levels. Age preferred mid-20s-30s.

Bernadette of Bond St.
Recruitment Consultants
No. 55, (next door to Fenwicks)
01-629 1284

PA—£6,500
LITIGATION PARTNER

A Senior Partner, who deals with a fascinating variety of cases involving interesting clients requires a PA/Secretary. He is head of the litigation department in this firm of lawyers near Cannon Street and needs a PA with good sh/typing skills who can cope with a demanding job. Good educational background and smart appearance necessary. Legal experience helpful but not essential. Excellent company benefits. Ring 628 4835.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

RADIANT RECEPTIONIST
£5,000+++

Poise, personality & panache are the essential requisites for this brand new receptionist's position. Assisting the chairman, greeting VIPs and Personnel duties are just part of your day. Previous experience and good typing skills are needed in return for excellent benefits and conditions. Please call

Anna Bock,
58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3

Graduate Girls Secretarial
01-621 0566

SW1, MODERN OFFICES RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

18+ for exciting new company. Lively person with sense of humour. Varied duties to include some switchboard and a willingness to try your hand at anything. Salary a.a.e.

Ring Janice Poole on 730 9056

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY
£6,250 PA

Required by small property investment company in Knightsbridge to work in close liaison with two Directors, competent shorthand essential. This is a responsible position and you will be expected to work on your own initiative. Please contact

HOWARD RAINGOLD
MARCOLT INVESTMENTS
6 ENNISMORE GARDENS, SW7
Tel: 01-584 7168

GOOD ALL-ROUNDER
£6,500+

Initiative and ability to take on responsibility pre-requisites for this job as PA (28+) to two directors of expanding City Investment Company. Good formal skills, financial aptitude (possibly with experience in Banking/Accountancy) and cheerful willingness to organise and work within a team.

Please ring Miss Campbell on 248 8126
NO AGENCIES

PARIS
EXPERIENCED SECRETARY REQUIRED FOR EUROPEAN FINANCE DIRECTOR OF LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

Conversational French desirable. Fast shorthand and typing essential.

Opportunity to be involved with mini-computer application if desired. Attractive salary.

Please ring PARIS 758 98 80 ext. 05, reversing the charge if necessary. Interviews will be held in London on Monday 9th February, 1981.

SECRETARY/PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Experienced Secretary required for M.D. of small, International Oil Company. Top skills and ability essential. Position vacant in new offices (Victoria) mid February. Persons currently earning less than £7,000 p.a. probably lack the necessary experience.

Tel.: 01-629 0845
JULIE DOUGAN

AUDIO SECRETARY

West End firm of surveyors urgently require an experienced audio secretary with fast speeds to work for two negotiators. Good salary for the right person.

Please call Pat Smith 935 6856

AUDIO SECRETARY

City branch of a firm of surveyors require a first-class audio secretary to work for two negotiators. Small office so adaptability would be an advantage. Good salary for the right person. Please call Janice Jones.

588 3718

YOUNG PA/SEC
£6,000 neg.

There aren't enough hours in the day for an up and coming City broker who urgently requires a presentable PA/Sec who will be able to take over the day-to-day administration of his newly-formed company. In return for your good sec. skills and organising ability, you will be given this opportunity to get involved in a fast-moving world. Ring Amanda Teale.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
Recruitment Consultants
3/6 Trump Street EC2V 8DA
01-606 1611

SECRETARY/PA
WEST END CONSULTANCY

Small, friendly but very busy consultancy requires mature, enthusiastic secretary/PA with good organisational skills. Responsibilities include helping two Directors, assisting in preparation of reports, office administration, etc. Audio essential, training for use of word processor available but optional. Good salary.

Ring Joanne on
01-486 8277

STYLES LESS MILES EXHIBITIONS
£5,700 + perks

Do you live near Hayes, Middlesex? Seize this opportunity to work nearer home. The manager of this well-known luxury car manufacturers seeks a P.A. who is able to deputise for him and attend exhibitions. Can you take responsibility? And would you like your own office? Then phone:

Veryan Young
on 01-629 7262
7 Prince's St., W.1.

Graduate Girls Secretarial

JOIN THE PROFESSIONALS
£5,800

Senior Manager of this prestigious City company requires your calm personality and excellent administrative, and audio skills to cope with the demands of his hectic day. Excellent presentation and diction essential, to reap the rewards. Call

Diane Hilton
58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3

Graduate Girls Secretarial
01-621 0566

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY/PA MAYFAIR

for partner U.S. Law firm. 3 girl office. No legal experience necessary. Good skills, 100/60. Work interesting and demanding. Salary open.

01-493 1383

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY with FRENCH £7,500-ish

An important new post has arisen in Central London that requires a 1st Class Secretary to be the focal point on a new project where the main function is to run an information retrieval system. Aged between 28-38 you will have exceptional secretarial skills, a fluency in French and hopefully German and an impressive career history that matches the level of this job. Experience in a technical/commercial environment is desirable as is a sense of commitment and reliability. Personal and professional presentation should be impeccable.

For a CITY appointment call Pat Middleton on 283 6033 or WEST END, Lana Jeffers on 408 1631.

MIDDLETON JEFFERS REC. LTD
25 Hanover Square, London, W1.

Stella Fisher IN THE STRAND
ARE YOU A PEOPLE PERSON?

The Head of our thriving Temporary Department is emigrating, and we need to replace her with an equally fast-thinking, numerate, sales-conscious and, above all, people-orientated person. Salary neg and job satisfaction guaranteed!

PLEASE TELEPHONE
JULIET HEPBURN, Manager

Stella Fisher Bureau
110 Strand, W.C.2. 01-836 6544
Recruitment Consultants

P.A. SEC
£6,500

Figure orientated P.A. for a Director of this American Co. Excellent conditions and company benefits in return for top class Secretarial skills. Contact Mrs Day. 283 7002

P.A. SEC
£6,000

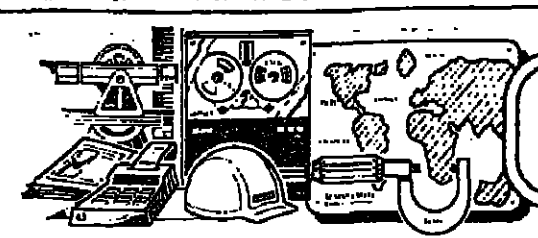
Super Oil Co. requires an outgoing person with s/h and statistical exp. plus good typing (50 w.p.m.) for lively Financial Director. Please phone Mrs. Devany on 283 7002.

FINANCE WORLD RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

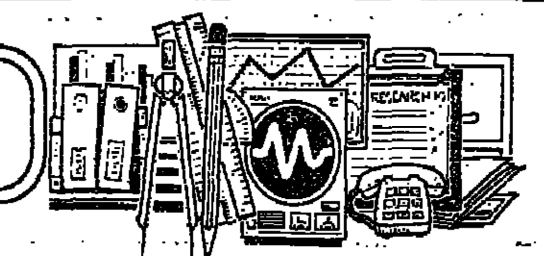
PERSONALITY PLUS
£5,800+

Enjoy your own office as P.A./Secretary to M.D. of a shipping Agency. Outgoing personality essential to deal with his many City clients and friends, together with good voice and presentation. If you think you fit this particular bill, telephone:

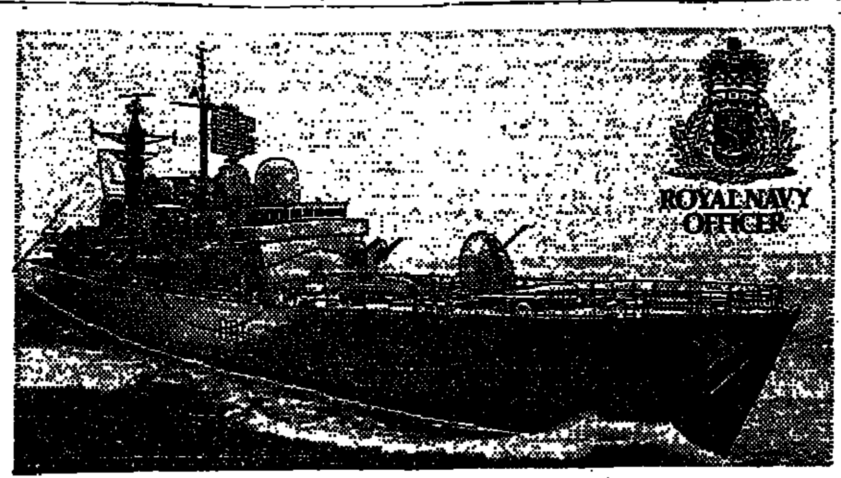
Josephine Morrison
58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3



Recruitment Opportunities



+++Engineers+++Overseas Appointments+++Accountancy+++Finance+++Sales+++Overseas Appointments+++Accountancy+++Finance+++Sales+++Marketing+++General+++Computing+++Management & Executive Appointments+++



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LOLA

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Remuneration will be of interest to those at present holding senior positions in industry, universities, research associations or government service. The appointment will commence towards the end of 1981.

Applicants should write in confidence to the Honorary Secretary (Home), Society of Chemical Industry, 14/15 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PS, by 16th March, 1981.

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RENTALS

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(continued on page 26)

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Derek Waring, Elizabeth Counsell (centre) and Mel Martin who appear in the comedy series Partners (BBC 1, 8.30)

● Paul Channon is the brand-new Minister for the Arts, and you have your first opportunity to assess his personality and philosophy in tonight's Guardian Lecture (BBC 2, 7.25) about the place of film and television in the arts. I was in the audience at the National Film Theatre when it was recorded on Tuesday night. We did not chortle more than twice (things would have been very different had his more flamboyant predecessor been at the lectern). Instead, we listened in respectful silence to the unfurling of familiar themes such as the duality of film (art form and commercial product), exhibition and distribution monopoly, and the dearth of family films. I thought Mr Channon might have got a "hear hear" or two when he said he thought television could help its less successful cousin the cinema by extending the hand of patronage when it came to making films. That was a point worth making, as was the one about cinemas not doing enough to make filmgoing more of a complete social experience.

● The refractory problem with BBC 2's Music-Hall Greats series is that, while some of the performers may have been great in the music hall (and, in most cases, emphatically were), their greatness was alarmingly diminished on the screen. Their films, in fact, must make the uninitiated wonder what all the fuss was about in the first place. Ted Ray is case in point. He was a master wisecracker, the standup comedian par excellence. Little of this alas, is reflected in tonight's film Please Turn Over (BBC 2, 6.00). But, on the principle that poor Ray is better than none, I include this rather silly little comedy in Personal Choice.

● Tonight's Radio 3 production of Love's Labour's Lost (7.30) is the same one we first heard in July 1979. I remember wondering aloud as I listened to it: how on earth can the BBC afford such a cast? The same thought will probably occur to you as you listen to it tonight, as I hope you will. As well as Anna Massey, Paul Scofield, Eileen Atkins, John McEnery and Robert Stephens, there's Michael Kitchen and Clifford Rose.

● But if you must have music, there is a live transmission from the Royal Festival Hall (Radio 4, 8.00 and 9.00) of Daniel Barenboim playing two piano concertos with the RPO—the Mozart No 23 and the Brahms No 1. The concert celebrates the London debut of Barenboim a quarter of a century ago.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.00 am For Schools, Colleges. History—Britain Alone. 9.25 Maths—geometry. 9.47 Maths—which way to go? 10.10 Merry-go-Round. 10.35 Scene: On Yer Bike! 11.05 It's Maths. 11.30 The story of the castle. 11.55 Beside the Sea. 12.20 pm Closedown.
12.45 News and weather. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Today's edition includes Tony Bilbow's regular feature on the cinema, Film Focus. 1.45 Bod: for the very young viewer. 2.00 You and Me: Vicki Luke with Lines and Circles.
2.15 For Schools, Colleges. Music Time (fast and slow). 2.40 Television Club (Man's Best Friend). Closedown at 3.00.
3.55 Play School: Robin and Inge Hyman's story Run, Run, Chase the Sun. With Yutaka Sugita's illustrations. 4.20 Undercover Elephant. Cartoon.
4.25 Jackanory: Martin Jarvis reads the fourth instalment of Lynne Reid Banks's The Indian in the Cupboard. 4.40 Scooby and Scrappy Doo: cartoon. The Scarab Lives.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround: junior newsreel. 5.05 Blue Peter: Peter Duncan helps build the course for the most hazardous of all canoeing courses—the White Water World Championships. 5.35 The Perishers: comedy, with Leonard Rossiter, Sheila Steafel (r).
5.40 News: with Jan Leeming. 5.55 Nationwide: with regional variations until 6.20. Mary Marquis from Glasgow's Reporting Scotland presents the Grass Roots item.
7.00 Tomorrow's World. Includes an item on new research by the fishing industry. A cleverly devised camera records the swimming habits of fish as a trawler net tries to sweep them up.
7.25 Top of the Pops. The BBC's platform for the pop music industry. Simon Bates is the presenter.
8.05 Wildlife on One: Flower from the Flames. Rodney Borland's film about some flamboyant South African flowers which need heat to break open their seed containers. They attract vast numbers of insects. One is found with more than 200 different species in it.
8.30 Partners: Comedy serial about a divorced couple (Richard Waring and Mel Martin) and The Other Woman (Elizabeth Counsell). Tonight: more about those much-needed shares.
9.00 News: With Richard Baker.
9.25 Starsky and Hutch: A young woman reporter writes an unflattering article about the two detectives, but there are some surprises in store for her (r).
10.15 Question Time: Robin Day's panel consists of Gwyneth Dunwoody, the Labour MP; Eldon Griffiths, the Conservative MP; Clive Jenkins of the white-collar workers' union ASTMS; and Sir David Napley, former president of the Law Society.
11.15 International Ice Skating: The men take to the ice in the European Figure Skating Championships at Innsbruck. All British eyes will probably be on Christopher Howarth. He was placed fifteenth last year.
11.55 News Headlines. Closedown at 12.00.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS:— BBC Cymru/Wales: 10.10-10.30 am I Ysgolion. 2.15-2.35 pm I Ysgolion. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 11.55-11.59 News. 11.59-12.20 am Snooker (Welsh Professional Championship). 12.20 News for Wales; Close. Scotland: 10.10-10.30 am For Schools. 12.40-12.45 pm Scottish News. 3.25-3.55 The Afternoon Show. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 The Current Account Report. 11.55-12.25 am Lord Mountbatten Remembers. 12.25 News for Scotland; Close. Northern Ireland: 11.30-11.50 am For Schools. 3.53-3.55 pm Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Sportsweek. 10.45-11.15 You and Your Rights. 11.55 News and Close. England: 5.55-6.20 pm Regional Magazines. 12.00 midnight Close.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: Robin and Inge Hyman's story Run, Run, Chase the Sun. The presenters are *Chloe Ashcroft* and *Ben Thomas*. Also on BBC 1 at 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
4.25 pm Open University: Childhood (five to 10); 4.50 The First Years of Life: the world at one; 5.15 S101 Preparatory Maths: angles. *Interval* at 5.30.
5.35 Harold Lloyd: Scenes from two of the comedian's silent black and white films, Ask Father and Captain Kidd's Kids. With a somewhat fatuous commentary.*
6.00 Music-Hall Greats: Please Turn Over (1959). Only moderately entertaining British-made comedy with Julia Lockwood as the daughter who puts the cat among the pigeons by writing a scandalous novel about her family and their friends. Also starring Ted Ray (the "great" in question) Jean Kent, Leslie Phillips.* Director: Gerald Thomas (see Personal Choice).
7.25 A Guardian Lecture: The Minister for the Arts, Paul Channon, talks about the place of film and television in the arts. Recorded at the National Film Theatre in London (see Personal Choice).
7.50 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
8.00 Writers and Places: The World's Wrong End. Thomas Keneally who wrote such books as The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith (recently filmed) and Gossip in the Forest, looks back on his early days in a catholic seminary and explains how he transferred this faith to a wider faith in an aboriginal view of Australia.
8.30 Russell Harty: With David Bellamy, Arthur Marshall and the Hallé Choir.
9.00 The Little World of Don Camillo: The fifth story in the series about a warring communist mayor and a village priest. Tonight: party disapproval of a consignment of American food parcels. With Brian Blessed (the mayor) and Mario Adorf (the priest).
9.25 Man Alive: Medicine or Miracle? Three astonishing case histories of women who used the power of the mind to conquer cancer. Three medical experts take part in a studio discussion about the role of the mind in illness.
10.15 The Mike Harding Show: First of six one-man shows starring this Lancashire-born comedian and musician. They were recorded in the sumptuous Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
10.45 Newsnight: News bulletins (read by the very able and attractive Linda Alexander) and comment about the major news stories of the day. Ends at 11.40.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools. Health education (family matters unit); 9.52 Ghost and spirits; 10.09 Making a living (industrial society); 10.31 Evolution (fossils); 10.53 A-level biology (the isolation and metabolism of mitochondria); 11.10 Science for younger children; 11.27 Craft activities for infants; 11.44 Picture Box.
12.00 Gideon: Two stories about a duckling. The voices are provided by Tim Brooke-Taylor; 12.10 pm Stepping Stones: The theme is seaside holidays. With Vicky Ireland and her puppet Stiggy; 12.30 The Sullivans: serial about an Australian family, at home and at war.
1.00 News; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Together: Another visit to Rutherford Court to catch up with the interlocked lives of some of its residents.
2.00 After Noon Plus: An interview with Kingman Brewster, the retiring American ambassador in London. Also, a visit to a London exhibition of African art.
2.45 Fallen Hero: Serial about a former rugby star (Del Henney) who is trying to adapt to a new way of life. Today: a wedding and an impending death (r).
3.45 In Loving Memory: Comedy series about undertakers. With Thora Hird and Christopher Beeny as aunt and nephew (r).
4.15 Watch It! A tale of the inventor, Dr Snuggles (with Peter Ustinov's voice); 4.20 Little House on the Prairie: part 2 of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Like The Waltons, homespun entertainment with a Big Heart.
5.15 Emmerdale Farm: serial about Yorkshire country folk.
5.45 News; 6.00 Thames news; 6.25 Help! A visit to a family workshop in Clapham; 6.35 Charlie's Angels: The kidnapping of a Honolulu nightclub owner who is not popular with his dancers.
7.30 The Jim Davidson Show: Comedy sketches and songs. Sue Wilkinson sings You've Got to be a Hustler.
8.00 Sapphire and Steel: Fantastic adventures with Joanna Lumley and David McCallum. In this final episode, the Shape attacks.
8.30 TV Eye: Going Private. An investigation into private medicine in Britain and the support it is getting from the trade unions and industry. Includes an interview with Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of Health.
9.00 Hill Street Blues: American police drama series, with Michael Conrad, Daniel J. Travanti and Michael Warren. Tonight: the President plans to visit Captain Furillo's precinct, so a gang war treaty must be negotiated.
10.00 News. And Thames news headlines.
10.30 Thames Report: Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth council which has increased rates by over 140 per cent in two years, faces angry ratepayers who are protesting at the latest 20p in the pound surcharge.
11.00 The New Avengers: Another yarn in this comedy-thriller series, with Patrick McNee and Joanna Lumley. Tonight: the Soviet underground base that is a threat to Canada (r).
12.00 What the Papers Say: newspaper review, presented by Sasthi Brata.
12.15 am Close: Sir Neil Cameron, Marshal of the RAF, reads Dorothy L. Sayer's The English War.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 People and Places (3).
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Soth, by Ness Driver.
11.00 News.
11.05 File on 4.
11.50 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Never Too Late.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Noon Ghosts, by Catherine Lucy Czerkawska.†
4.00 Fritz Spiegl's Musical Alphabet.
4.15 Bookshelf.
4.45 The Towers of Trebizond (2).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.55 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse.
7.30 Kaleidoscope.
8.00 RPO/Dutoit (live from Festival Hall), pt 1: Mendelssohn, Mozart (Pno Conc 23—Barenboim).†
8.40 Who Needs a Conductor?
9.00 RPO, pt 2: Brahms (Pno Conc 1)† (See Personal Choice).
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 The Worm Forgives the Plough (9).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.
VHF
9.05 am Schools: A Service for Schools; Music Interlude; Maths—with a Story!; Sounds, Words and Movement; Music Interlude; Stories and Rhymes. 10.30-10.45 Listen With Mother. 11.00-12.00 Schools: Time and Tune (13); Man: Home or Away. 2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Living Language: Look!; Living Through History. 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Punti di vista (14).

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Dvorak, Rossini, Mozart (K443), Copland.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Rossini, Liszt, Bax, Haydn (Sym 95).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Bach.†
10.00 Ensemble (Delmé): Schubert (Octet).†
11.05 RLPO/Rattle, pt 1: Beethoven, Mozart (Pno Conc 24—Larrocha).†
12.00 Interval reading.
12.10 pm RLPO, pt 2: Stravinsky, Prokofiev (Sym 3).†
1.00 News.
1.05 Songs (S. Walker/Vignoles—live from Bristol): Brahms, Mahler.†
2.00 Quartet, piano (Coull/Markham): Stravinsky, Schumann (op 44).†
2.40 Record: Mendelssohn (Die beiden Pädagogen).†
3.35 Interval reading.
3.40 Record: Mendelssohn (Die Heimkehr aus der Fremde).†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Talking about Music.†
7.30 Play: Love's Labour's Lost, by Shakespeare† (See Personal Choice).
9.45 Record: Pleyel.†
10.10 Talk: Words.
10.15 Songs (N. Burrowes): Strauss, Bardwell.†
10.35 A Mozart Pilgrimage (3).†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Bartok.†

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Country Club.† 9.02 Alan Dell.† 10.02 A Very Private Man. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Steve Wright. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Peter Powell. 7.00 Wheels. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.02 John Peel.† 12.00 Close. VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Four Hands in Harmony. 8.30 Fiesta. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 A Touch of Genius. 10.15 Living for Faith. 10.30 Just a Minute. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Intermezzo. 11.30 Business Matters. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Top Twenty. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Waveguide. 5.15 The Music Party. 5.45 Sports Round-up. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 London Heathrow—Anatomy of an Airport. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Peebles' Choice. 2.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.30 University Challenge. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.35 People Rule! 11.05 Jazz. 12.05 What The Papers Say. 12.25 am Weather followed by Daily Margaret.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Happy Days. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.35 Your Chance. 11.05-12.00 SWAT.
HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.30 am-9.45 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Owain a'r Olion. 4.15-4.20 Tom Sawyer. 4.20-4.45 Take a Chance. 4.45-5.10 Sêr. 5.10-5.20 Cartoon. 6.00-6.15 Y *Dydd*. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.35-11.20 Impromptu. 11.20-12.15 am SWAT.

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Salvage I. 5.10-5.15 Police News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Electric Theatre Show. 10.30 Cover to Cover. 11.00 Paris. 12.00-12.05 am News.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Alright Now. 10.28 News. 10.36 Unforgettable. 11.05-11.30 Electric Theatre Show.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 4.20 Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Tarzan. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 Northern Scene. 11.00 Superstar Profile: David Niven. 11.30 Soap. 12.00-12.05 am World's Apart.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.50 Police Six. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Counterpoint. 11.15-11.25 Bedtime.

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 4.20 Vic the Viking. 4.50-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Focus. 11.00 News. 11.05-12.05 am Lou Grant.

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Action Line. 6.30 Talking Scots. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 In Concert. 11.00 Superstar Profile: Dudley Moore. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35-12.30 am Lou Grant.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Westward Report. 10.32 News. 10.36 Unforgettable. 11.05 Electric Theatre Show. 11.30-11.35 Faith for Life.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Salvage I. 5.15-5.45 New Fred and Barney Show. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Benson. 11.00 It's a Musical World. 11.50-11.53 News.

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20-5.15 Project UFO. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Bygones. 10.30 In Search of the Past. 11.15 Kate Loves A Mystery. 12.10 am Superstar Profile: Steven Spielberg. 12.40 Today's People.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Country Calendar. 4.20 Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 With a Little Help. 11.00-12.00 Beyond Westworld.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.20-5.45 Film: Lone Ranger. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 Benson. 11.00 What the Papers Say. 11.20-12.20 am Paris.

Entertainments Guide

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ALBERY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY DUET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY
CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6565 from 9 a.m. all major cards. No bkg. fees. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. STUDENT STANDBY £2.90.

ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. Stalls from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15.
"SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCK-OUT'" S. Times. S. Exp. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980
PAL JOEY
"IS SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.). RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail). GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY. SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

ALDWCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Ton't, Tomor 7.30, Sat 2.00 & 7.30
THE SUICIDE
by Nikolai Erdman
'Highly entertaining farce' Time Out. 'The RSC has uncovered a masterpiece' Gdn With: O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (next perf 10 Feb) and Peter Nichols' PASSION PLAY (next perf 13 Feb). Prestel booking 22023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse/Piccadilly.

APOLLO, S cc 01-437 2663. Grp. Sales 379 6061. LAST PERFS—ENDS SATURDAY! Ton't, Tomor 8.0, Sat 5 & 8.
RODNEY BEWES FRANCIS MATTHEWS
in "An unusually truthful and intelligent comedy" The Observer.
MIDDLE AGE SPREAD
COMEDY OF THE YEAR WEST END THEATRE AWARDS 1979

KINGS HEAD, 226 1916. Dnr 7. Show 8. DAFFODILS — The Barrow Poets.

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8. Tue 3, Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"ONE OF THE CLEVEREST PLAYS EVER WRITTEN" Daily Telegraph.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. 7.45 Sat 4.30 & 8 Thurs 2.30. FAITH BROOK. JOHN ARNATT. LUCY GUTTERIDGE. TONY CAUNTER. DAVID TROUGHTON. In EDGAR WALLACE's thriller THE CASE OF THE FRIGHTENED LADY.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Last 2 weeks Mon-Sat. 8.15, Mats. Thur. 3.00. Sat. 4.00.
RALPH RICHARDSON
in the National Theatre prod. of
EARLY DAYS
by David Storey
RALPH RICHARDSON: "TRIUMPH" Gdn. "UNFORGETTABLE" Int. Hld Trib "NOT TO BE MISSED" Punch. Group Sales 379 6061.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium—seats £3.70 (Prevs. £3.20). Day seats £2.20. Student standby £1.50). Prevs Ton't, Tomor 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN, by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves 8. Fri Sat 6 & 8.45.
Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times "OUTRAGEOUS" Guardian

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Opens Feb. 26 at 7.00. Reduced price previews Feb. 21, 23, 24, 25 at 8.00.

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565 836 9837 839 4062 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 3.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Swet awards 80
BEST ACTRESS
New Standard Drama Awards 80
BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
1980 DRAMA AWARDS
and DAVID DE KEYSER
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Drama Awards of the Year 1980
in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY
Drama Awards 1980
"THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph
"NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.

GARRICK (S) cc 01-836 4601 Evgs. 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 5.30 & 8.30 Reduced price Mats. Fridays Group Bookings 01-379 6061
WILLIAM FRANKLIN in
DEATHTRAP
"THE BEST THRILLER" D. T.
LAST WEEK—ENDS SAT.

GLOBE s cc 437 1592. 439 6770.
FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY
ROWAN ATKINSON
IN REVUE
Previews Feb. 17 & 18 at 8.00. Opens Feb. 19. 7.0. Subs 8.0 Sat Sat. 6.0 & 8.45. BOOK NOW!

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs 8.0 (sharp). Mat Sat 2.30 PRESENT LAUGHTER, by Noel Coward. "A total success . . . the playing throughout is excellent" F. Times. "Donald Sinden is immensely watchable" Times.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301.
Jean-Claude Grumberg's
THE WORKSHOP
"NEEDS TO BE SEEN. LEE MONTAGUE VOLCANICALLY COMIC, LYNN FARLEIGH SUPERBLY TRUTHFUL" Tms. Mon.-Fri. 8 p.m., Sat. 4.30 & 8 p.m.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL cc 01-930 9832. Only 11 more weeks. Mon-Sat eves. at 8.0
MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragi-comic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in
VIRGINIA
"a beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves 7.30, Sats 4.30 & 8.15. HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe, Julia McKenzie, Ronald Pickup.
LYRIC STUDIO: Ton't 7.0. Subs Eves 8.0 MARIKA'S CAFE THEATRE with Marika Rivera.

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LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686, evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

LYTTELTON (N.T.'s proscenium stage): Ton't, Tomor 7.45 THE PROVOKED WIFE by John Vanbrugh.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON/COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880.

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 'S' Until Feb. 14 Mon. to Sat. Eves. 7.30. Wed. & Sat. at 2.00 THE RELAPSE by Sir John Vanbrugh.

OLIVIER (N.T's open stage): Ton't 7.30 Las Perf SISTERLY FEELINGS, new comedy by Alan Ayckbourn (Dorcas / Canvas). Tomor 6 pm MAN AND SUPERMAN. Today 10.30 am & 2 pm HIAWATHA, a spectacular Children's show for 6 to 12 yr olds (some seats available. Adults £3. 16 yr old & under £1.50).

PALACE, S cc 01-437 6834
"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail.
Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times.
Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30, Mats Tues. Wed. Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in
DICK WHITTINGTON
"The audience, old and young, roared, screamed, yelled and laughed their approval" Fin. Times. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061. FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP"
LIBERACE
with supporting company OPENS APRIL 28th for 2 weeks only. BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opening June 11 (Special Previews May 29).
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
BARNUM
THE SMASH HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL. Postal booking now open.

PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611.
THAT'S SHOWBIZ!
The Sensational Variety Spectacular. OPENS FEB. 11TH AT 7.00. Sub. Twice Daily at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £3.50, £3 50, £4.50, £5.50.

PRINCE EDWARD. S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat Wed. 3. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO
In Willy Russell's new comedy
"EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS' AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS, IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in
IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun, Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price
Directed by Robert Chetwyn
Evenings 8.0. Mat: Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061
"STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564 Scarborough Theatre in the Round in SUBURBAN STRAINS. A Musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN. Composed by PAUL TODD. Opns Ton't 7. Sub Evgs 8. Mats Thurs & Sats 2.30. (No Mat Today).

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745.
TOUCHED
By Stephen Lowe. Evgs. 8. Mon. all seats £2. "Beautifully written piece . . . the performances are superb". Gdn.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30. "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888.
JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS
"PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY . . . TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn.
In Charles Dyer's comedy
RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN
"COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 5.45 & 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only 839 7516 (9.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sats 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.). Last 4 weeks.

SHAW 01-388 1394
SHORT SEASON ONLY!
GOTCHA AND KILLING TIME
by Barrie Keeffe
Mat. Thurs 2.30. Evgs. 7.30.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660. 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
Group sales box office 379 6061.

SHAFTESBURY, cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 or 01-839 4682 (9.30-6.00. Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50. (£1.00 seats at Box Office) (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

TRICYCLE THEATRE 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "very funny satire" Tms. Mons-Sats. 8pm.

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's SMASH HIT MUSICAL
JOSEPH
AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT
GRP SALES 379 6061.
"A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex "SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC
EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't 7.30 THE IRISH PLAY by Ron Hutchinson. 'Hilarious . . . sheer theatrical vitality' Gdn. All seats £3.50, Students £2.00. Adv bkgs from Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER. S. CC. 01-834 0283. Hugh Manning as C. S. Lewis in
SONG OF THE LION
Directed by David William
"TRULY IMPRESSIVE" Times. "SPELLBINDING" S. Telegraph. Evenings 7.45 until Saturday.

WINDMILL THEATRE. cc 01-437 6312. Continuous performances from 6.30 including Sunday. PAUL RAYMOND presents . . . OFF. Hotter than ever . . . The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. CC 379 6565. Red. price. Gps 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.45.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm the West End needed" . . . "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D . . .

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. . . . 7.30. PYGMALION. . . . 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ . . . RICHARD II.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT. From 8.00. Dining & Dancing. 9.30 SUPER REVUE
"BUBBLY"
at 11: GRACE KENNEDY
DANCING TILL 1 a.m.
From Feb 16: BRUCE FORSYTH

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. . . . Joseph Losey's film of DON GIOVANNI (A) . . . (not Sun). 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Tarkovsky's haunting STALKER (A). Progs. . . . Sun.). 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. . . . ORPHEE (A) and PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE . . . Progs 5.45, 8.15. . . . also 3.15.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) . . . HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4. . . . 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) . . . 6.30, 8.30. Last perf . . .
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave. . . . 5414). THE BLUE LAGOON (AA) cont. progs dly . . . 4.40, 6.40, 8.40.
CURZON, Curzon St., W1. . . . 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA) . . . 2.0 (not Sun). 4.05, 6. . . .
DOMINION, Tott. Court Rd. . . . 9562). PROM NIGHT . . . LOVE AT FIRST BITE . . . Cont. Progs. Wks. 1. . . . 7.00. Sun. 4.15. 6.10 . . .
EMPIRE, Leicester Square . . . 1234. Seats bookable for evening perfs. Mon.-Fri. . . . perfs. Sat. and Sun. . . . night shows) at the . . . (11 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon. . . . by post. No telephone . . . THE BALTIMORE BULLET (AA). Sep progs daily 1.00 . . . 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. . . . Leicester Square. WILLIE & PHIL (X). Sep progs. daily . . . Suns.) 3.50, 6.00, 8.3 . . .
GATE CINEMA, Notting Hill 0220/727 5750. . . . MEMORIES (AA). . . . 4.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30. . . . VICES AND PUBLIC VIRTUES (X) & OEDIPUS REX . . . p.m.
GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402/1177. Russ Sq Tube. . . . PRESENTATION OF BETTE MIDLER'S "THE ROSE" (X). Last 7 days. 1.30. . . . 8.40. NIGHT AT THE OPERA (U) & A DAY AT THE RACES (U) 11.00 p.m. Lic'd Bar.
GATE THREE CINEMA 267 . . . 485 2446 Camden Town . . . THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUM (A) . . . 3.50, 6.15, 8.40. LIC . . .
GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031. MAYFAIR HOTEL, Stratton St. Green Park Tube. KAGEMUSHA . . . 5.30, 8.20. Seats Bookable . . . 5 p.m. Last 7 days.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Jack Lemmon in TRIBUTE (AA). Sep. . . . (inc Sun). Drs Open 2. . . . 8.10. Late Show Fri & Sat . . . open 11.15. Seats bookable . . . w/ends & Last Eve prog. . . . Show.
MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge . . . 4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles) . . . 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9. . . . Night Show Fri & Sat 1 . . .

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! In 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. Progs. Wks. 1.45, 4.50, 8.00. Sun 4.20, 7.45. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.15.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234 HOLIDAY ON ICE WITH ROBIN COUSINS . . .

ART GALLERIES

BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5, Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.
BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St. 734 7984. Keith Grant.

Classified Guide

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JESUS said: If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. St John 15: 10.

BIRTHS

BRADSHAW.—On 1st February to Meragh (née Walker) and Paul—a son (Edward), brother for Ruth, Helen, and James.

BREEZE.—On 2nd February to Fiona (née Horney) and John—a son (Henry ...), a fine brother for William, Matthew and Edward.

BROWN.—On January 19th, to Denise (née Kennedy) and Nigel—a son (Fergus Richard), a brother for Jamie.

BUTLER.—On February 2nd, to Deirdre and Ronald, of ..., Kent—a son (Philip Laurence).

COLDREY.—On February 2nd, 1981, at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, to Elizabeth (née Macready) and Mark—a daughter.

EAST.—On 3rd February, at Duchess of Kent Military Hospital, Catterick, to Sarah and Richard—a son.

FULLER.—On January 31st, at Heath Road, Ipswich, to Geraldine (née Fitzroy) and Richard—a son (Oliver).

HAWKES.—On 2nd February, 1981, at Mount Alvernia, Guildford, to Jenny (née Collins) and Anthony—a daughter (Anna-Lea).

KAIN.—On Jan. 30th, at Chelmsford, to Virginia (née Lloyd Owen) and Stephen—a son.

TOWNSEND.—On 1 Feb to Anita (née Walshe) and Cyril, at Westminster Hospital—a son, a brother for Hugh.

TULLY.—On February 3rd, 1981, at Queen Charlotte's to Ros and Russ, an Octerette (Kim Louise).

VAN DER VELDEN.—On 3rd February, 1981, to Michele and Jan-Willem—a son (Jan-Paul).

WIETZEL.—On 1st February, 1981, to Sandra (née Ridley) and Paul—a son (Edward William), a brother for Oliver and Sarah.

MARRIAGES

VAN DE PETTE : APILEY-SMITH.—On Jan. 10th, at St. Mary's, Felpham, W. Sussex. John to Nicole.

WALLIS : LEWIS.—On 4th February, 1981, in St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, Hong Kong. Shaun to Catherine.

WHITESCHLADEN : MEYER.—On December 27th, 1980, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Winfield, Illinois. Patrick Giles, only son of Mr and Mrs ... [illegible]

DEATHS

[illegible]

DEATHS

MACGREGOR - GREER.—Maj. Stephen Walcott Macgregor, at home in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, at the age of 71, on December 6, 1980. Beloved husband of Mollie and father of Stephanie, Derek and David.

McALPINE.—On February 4th, peacefully at home in his 91st year, Douglas McAlpine, F.R.C.P. Beloved husband of Diana and father of Mary, Christopher and Alastair. Funeral private. Donations to Multiple Sclerosis Society.

McSCOTT.—On 3rd February, Brigadier Locke Harrison, C.B.E., T.D., V.L., F.C.A., aged 82 years, dearly beloved husband of Dorothy and the late May. Dear father of Anne and Sheila, step-father of James and brother of Vera. Funeral at Barton Church, Friday, 6th February at 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only.

PETERS.—On Feb 4th, peacefully at home, Constance Lilian, loved mother of John and family. Funeral 12 noon Sat., Feb 7th at St. Albans Church, Wood Street Village.

SCRIVENER.—On February 2 at Grange Cottage, Malthouse Lane, Barlaston, Stoke-on-Trent, Gerald aged 69 years, dearly loved husband of Margaret. Cremation private. A Memorial Service will be held at Trentham Parish Church, Stoke-on-Trent on Friday at 11.30 am. No flowers by request. Enquiries to Forrester's Brothers, Funeral Directors, Stoke-on-Trent. Tel.: 315574.

SPRY.—On January 27, 1981, George Sanders of Place House, Gerrards Cross, husband of Sylvia, father of Barbara and Christina. Burial has taken place in Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

STENHOUSE.—On Feb 4, at home The Hut, Mount Park Road, Harrow. Johannah, much loved wife of Charles, mother of Susan (Richey) and John and grandmother of Katharine and Dominic. Cremation private, no flowers please, but donations if desired to Purcell School Scholarship Fund, Oakhurst, Mount Park Road, Harrow.

TAYLOR.—On February 2nd, Leonard Gilbert, dearly beloved husband of Jenny and devoted father of Susan and Caroline. Funeral service on Monday, February 9th at 3 p.m. at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Epsom Cottage Hospital where Leonard has been so lovingly cared for.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MONEY.—The Service of Remembrance for the late Margery Ruth Money will take place at St. Bartholomew's Church, Leigh, Near Reigate, Surrey, at 11 a.m. ... [illegible]

IN MEMORIAM

[illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[illegible]

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,442

ACROSS

1 Take off from this perhaps for southern flight (5).
4 Man of straw could have kept two brothers battling ? (9).
9 Parker's nosey opposite number (5, 4).
10 He put a hundred in employment (5).
11 Joe Soap at last has the reward of seniority (3, 3, 9).
12 Foot's part in pedal synchronization (6).
14 Make new claim to various treasures you lost, say ? (8).
17 Sudden growth of the nuclear deterrent (8).
19 Miss Doxology (6).
22 Kipling hardly so flattered the silly sportsmen (10, 5).
24 Pointer putting you on a right line (5).
25 Italian resort, or what's left of one, no ? (9).
26 Bouncing back, I got right among the others (9).
27 Much good cheer, note, in Lent (5).

DOWN

1 Pommy is involved with us in bibulous discussion ? (9).
2 Painter, former neo-Edwardian, thus assessed (5).
3 A fairy on horseback somewhere in space (7).
4 Are cameramen so smart and brisk ? (6).
5 World War II battleground—end's near anyway (8).
6 N signs on, we hear, for orders (7).
7 Capek play without a story he tells (9).
8 Composer of operas "Flytrap" and "Queen Bess" (5).
13 As far as possible on board the bark (9).
15 Maybe a ship to take us across the harbour (9).
16 Breakdown, Littlewood holding everything up ? (8).
18 Restoration of the kidneys (including Kipling's twain) (7).
20 No hitch in Apollo's rise (4-3).
21 Worry about return of an animal (6).
22 Natural aptitude of student—outwardly not bad (5).
23 Its spirit messages affirmatively bilingual ? (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,441

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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هكذا من الأصل

United Nations experts predict that, if present trends continue, six cities of the world will each have more than 20 million people by the year 2000. Peter Strafford describes the biggest urban magnet in South America, which the population specialists say could have 25,800,000 inhabitants by the end of the century

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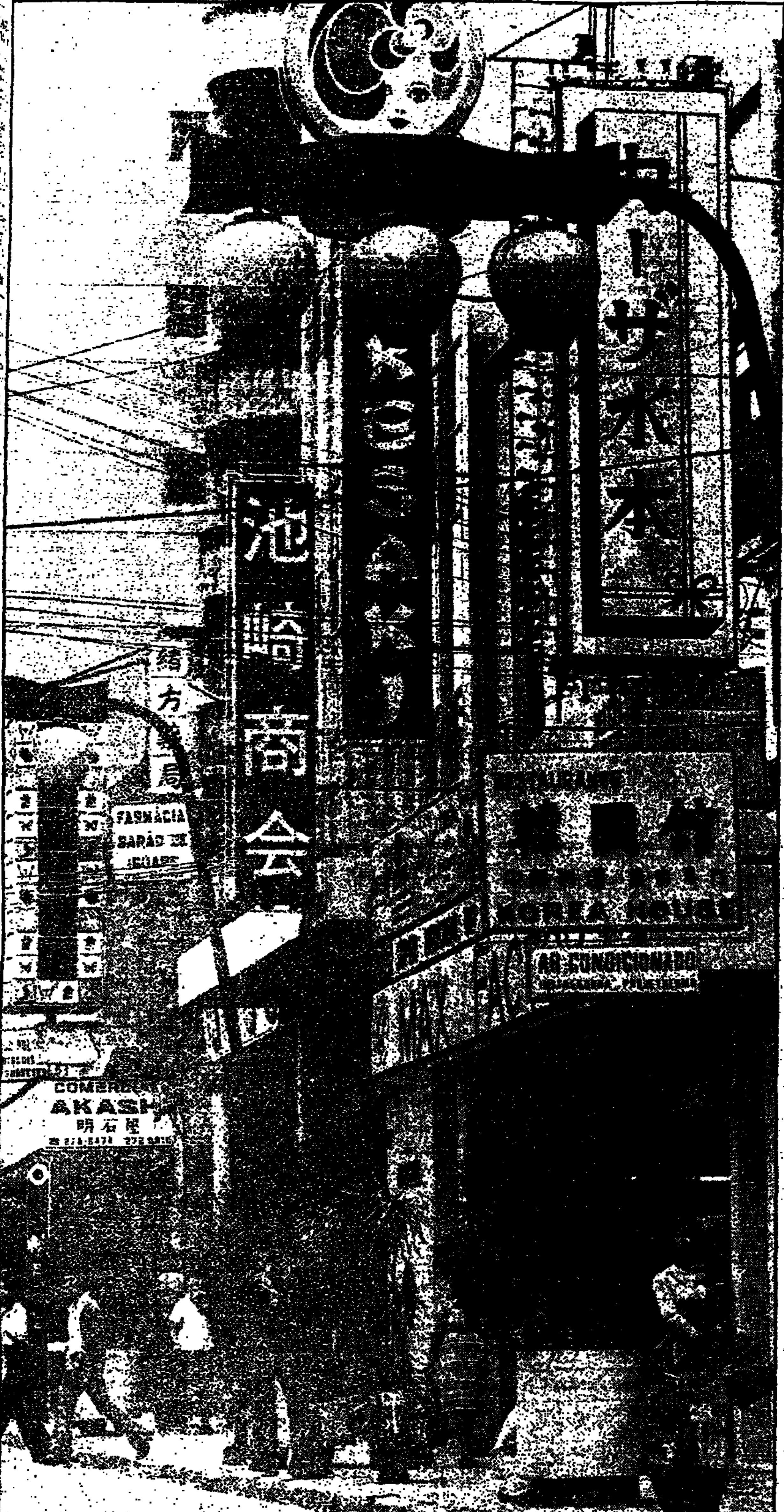
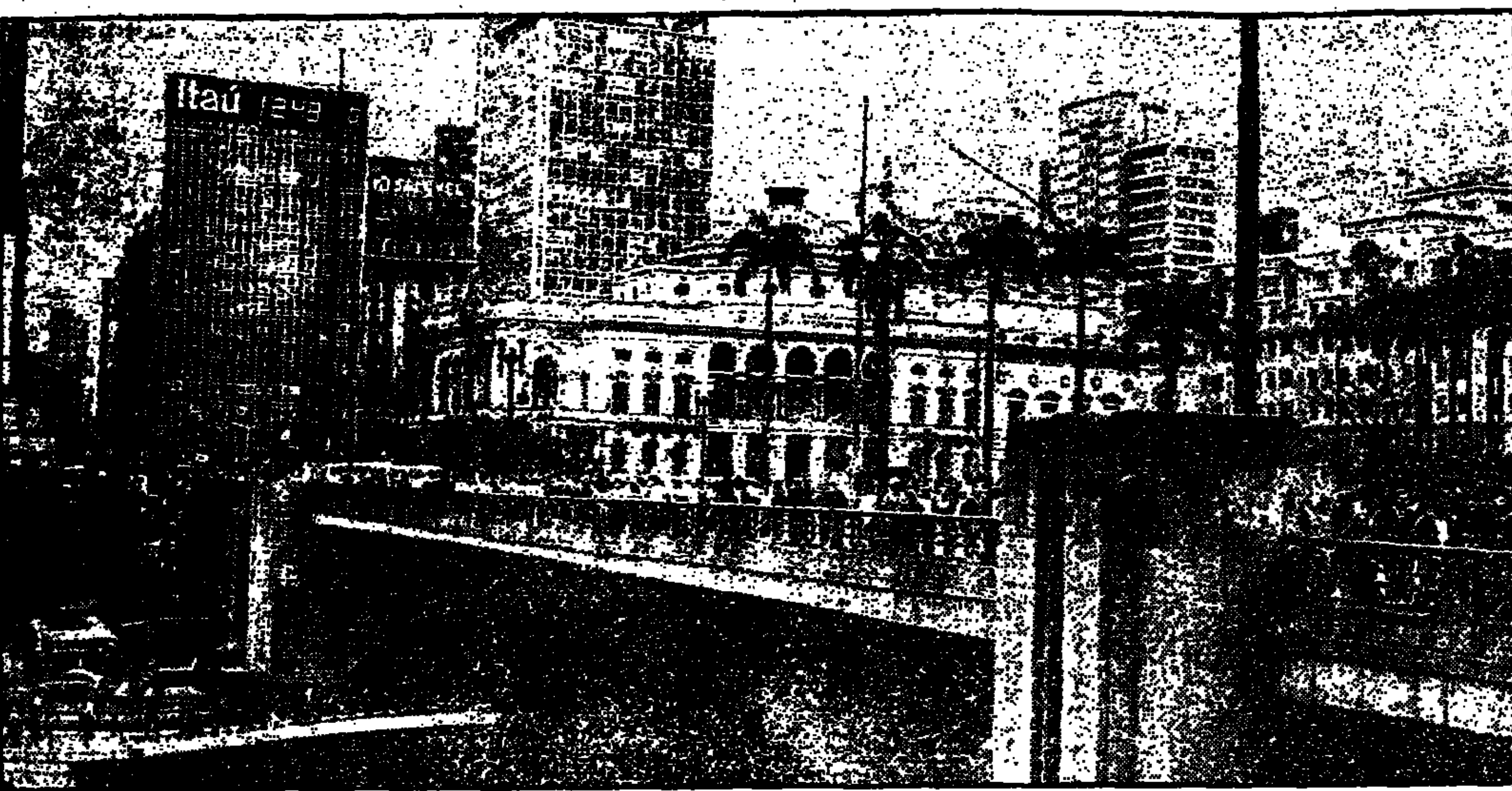




Carlos Freire

In 1872, when the first Brazilian census was taken, Sao Paulo had a mere 31,000 inhabitants and was only the tenth largest city in the country. Today, with more than eight million inhabitants in the city itself and with a total of 12 million in the metropolitan area, it is the largest city not only in Brazil but in the whole of South America.

And it is still growing. By 1990, according to official projections, the city alone *will have about 11,500,000* inhabitants. Population experts at the United Nations have estimated that if past trends continue, the metropolitan area could have a population of 25 million by the end of the century.

Sao Paulo owes this situation to its dynamism as the industrial, financial and commercial capital of Brazil. It is a big, bustling city, which has attracted people from all over the country, drawn by the hope of earning more money than they could ever dream of in such backward regions as the north-east.

It has also absorbed, to a greater or lesser extent, large groups of immigrants from overseas. *Over the past 100* years, Italians, Portuguese, Spaniards, Japanese, Germans and others have settled in Sao Paulo, making it as racially diverse as New York or Chicago, and with much the same sense of urgency.

Its rapid growth has caused enormous problems, with the city's facilities failing to keep up with the increase in population. Like the rest of Brazil, Sao Paulo presents big contrasts between rich and poor; there are comfortable residential areas for the better off, and others where the inhabitants are destitute.

At the same time there is a *distinctive sense of purpose* about the city which makes it resemble a Latin version of one of the industrial cities of the United States. *People work hard in* Sao Paulo, and middle-class Paulistas affect to look down on Cariocas, the inhabitants of Rio de Janeiro, as pleasure-lovers who want to do nothing but lie on beaches.

It is not a beautiful city, in spite of one or two broad avenues, some good modern buildings and a few parks. Its central area is a forest of tall buildings, but even there the overall impression is of shabbiness and lack of planning, the crowds of people in the streets making it seem like an anthill.

Farther out there are stretches of industrial wasteland and, on the outskirts, the *favelas* or shanty towns where the poorest inhabitants live. As the city has grown it has spread farther and farther over the surrounding countryside, and the under-privileged often have to live a long way out.

Sao Paulo is not just the city, but the whole state of Sao Paulo, with a population of 24 million and an area about that of the United Kingdom. Much of Brazil's coffee is grown in the state, for instance, and it was that which laid the foundation for the city's prosperity in the days before industrialization.

Paulistas like to boast that the state's economic product is comparable to, if not *superior to, that of the whole* of Argentina. That may not be quite true, but certainly Sao Paulo is much the richest of the states that make up Brazil, and there is a world of difference between the resources available to it and those of the poor states of the north-east, for instance.

There have been times in the past when Sao Paulo dominated Brazilian politics, providing many of its presidents. There was even an occasion in 1932, in the days of Getúlio Vargas, when the state declared an armed *revolt against the central* government in Rio, and some Paulistas talked of demanding secession and setting themselves up as an independent sovereign state.

Nowadays the state's objectives are less ambitious, and Brazil has become more *centralized*, but Sao Paulo continues to have great influence in a number of areas. It has its own publicly-owned airline, for instance, Vasp, which flies all over Brazil. It is also influential as a centre for the arts and for social movements of various kinds.

Paulistas claim that the University of Sao Paulo, funded by the state, is the *best in Brazil; and they talk* proudly of the city's theatrical life, comparing it, as they do everything, with Rio. For a Brazilian artist who wants to make his name, Sao Paulo, not Rio, is the place to come to.

The Roman Catholic church in Sao Paulo, headed by Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, the Archbishop of Sao Paulo, has been in the forefront of church moves to show more concern for issues of human rights and social justice. At the time when the military regime was carrying out policies of severe repression, he spoke out against torture and other abuses; today he is more specially *concerned with the plight of* the workers and the poor.

Brazilian trade unions have not traditionlly been strong, unlike the situation in Argentina. But a powerful movement has grown up among the metalworkers of the Sao Paulo area, who have set the pace for the country *as a whole; and they have* had church support.

Their leader for some time was Senhor Luís Inácio da Silva, known as Lula. During a strike last year he was removed from office by the Government, which put in its own men to run the union; but he has formed a new political party, the Workers' Party (PT), which is intended to attract national *support.*

It is not certain that Sao Paulo will continue to grow at the same hectic pace as it has in the past. It is noticeable that among the planners of the state government, all-out growth is not regarded as the benefit it was once, and hopes are expressed that it will be possible to contain it.

Sao Paulo, with its affluent middle class, has produced an environmentalist movement. Officials are uneasily conscious of the bad impression made by the booklet *Sao Paulo: Growth and Poverty*, published by the church in 1975, which outlined the abysmal conditions *in which the poorer* inhabitants of the city live.

Officials maintain that Sao Paulo is no longer the magnet it was for migrants from other parts of Brazil. There is a decline in the building industry, they say, and that has meant that *migrants from the north-*east are tending to go to states further inland, such as Goiás, Rondônia and Mato Grosso, which are now being developed.

Efforts are also being made to be more selective about new industries *wanting to establish themselves* in Sao Paulo. Those likely to add to the existing levels of pollution are being either refused permission or else compelled to observe stricter standards. Those using advanced technology are being encouraged.

There is, however, no *denying the need to improve* the quality of life of the less affluent Paulistas, and to prevent general standards from deteriorating further. In Brazil's present economic crisis, it will not be easy. In an article last year on the 1980s, *O Estado de Sao Paulo* commented gloomily that there were only a few areas in which the quality of life would improve.

There would be a *reduction* in air and water pollution, it said. But public transport would be badly affected by the increase in the price of oil, and the traffic would be made worse by a doubling of the number of cars. Noise would become *unbearable in many parts of* the city.

It quoted a health official as saying that about 300,000 babies would be born each year, but that there would be little improvement in nutrition, schools, housing, wages or transport. Crime, already a serious problem, would increase further.

Nor was there much prospect of improving Sao *Paulo's roads—7,500 miles* long and only half of them paved and provided with lights—or the lot of those who have to make long and uncomfortable journeys into work every day, whether by overcrowded bus or train.

Sao Paulo has its problems, *some of them deriving* from its rapid growth, others, at least according to the church and other opposition critics, from the nature of the military regime. The largest and most dynamic city in Brazil offers opportunities to many, but also *discomfort or worse to many* others.

Sao Paulo is as racially diverse as New York or Chicago. A street scene in Liberdade, the Japanese quarter. Right: the Viaduto do Chá, which more than a million people cross each working day.

Economic giant that slept politically for years

Although Sao Paulo has been the most economically powerful state in Brazil for the past 50 years, it is only in the past five that it has come to have a similar status in the political life of the nation. At the beginning of the century Sao Paulo saw some of the most important strikes in Brazil, organized by anarcho-syndicalists of Spanish and Italian descent, but it has only been in the wake of the strikes of the past three years in its motor manufacturing suburbs that Sao Paulo has once again become the most politically conscious and active state of the union.

Why, compared with such economically weaker states as Rio de Janeiro, Minas Gerais, and Rio Grande do Sul, has Sao Paulo sent so few presidents, either political or military, to the capital?

The great strikes of the early part of the century occurred before the phenomenon which has typified Sao Paulo state—migration. This has meant that at most *times during this century* there have been more people living in Sao Paulo who were not born there than Paulistas themselves. Once the force of the politically conscious immigrants from Europe had spent itself, these men were replaced by migrants of another sort—poor, usually illiterate men and their families who poured in by land and sea in hundreds of thousands from Brazil's poor north-east. These men had no roots in Sao Paulo, and they had little interest in or identification with the political values there. Their ambition was to get a better job, make some money, and give their children a better chance. In most cases, Sao Paulo did not let them down.

The 1930s saw the assumption of power by Brazil's major political figure of this century, Getúlio Vargas. He set about establishing "vertical" trade union structures similar to those of Spain and Italy. In Brazil it meant that established workers—that small but important proportion *in the big cities—were* given security of job tenure and a generous minimum wage (never extended to any *besides a small urban work*ing class elite) in exchange for which, essentially, workers gave up their right *to strike and organize.*

This right to strike, which is still greatly restricted by law, was not finally won back by the working class, except for interludes, until two years ago. And as last year's strike in the Sao Paulo car manufacturing suburbs showed, when the elected union leadership of Luis Inácio da Silva (Lula) was expelled and replaced by men from the Ministry of Labour, it is still not fully guaranteed.

As well as crippling working class organizations in Sao *Paulo, the relative prosperity* of the state also inhibited the three major parties of Brazil in making progress there. The Uniao Democrático Nacional (UDN), the Partido Democrático Social (PDS), and the Partido Trabalhista Brasileiro (PTB) made *little impression* in Sao Paulo, and in their place a series of populist leaders, such as Senhor Ademar de *Barros and Senhor* Jânio Quadros, came to take their place.

The present governor of *the state*, Senhor Paulo Salim Maluf, is very much in the populist tradition. But Governor Maluf, who took over two years ago somewhat against the wishes of President Figueiredo, whose candidate he managed to defeat in an indirect election, has proved totally incapable of behaving in the time honoured populist fashion. Governor Maluf, a swashbuckling politician of the old style, has raised eyebrows among the traditionalists in the state because of his *methods, but* he is a man with solid achievements in previous posts in Sao Paulo's public *administration.*

He started his term of office with the loudly proclaimed aim of moving the *state's administrative capital* hundreds of miles inland from the crowded and chaotic city of Sao Paulo. This was one of the main planks *of his successful election*, as Senhor Maluf had raised much support from public men in the interior who resent their subservience to the distant city of Sao Paulo. The idea has many merits. Sao Paulo, a state the size of West Germany, is totally dominated by the capital, where half the Paulistas live. The success of Brasilia in moving the country's centre of gravity to the west has shown such a move can work.

Critics say the huge sums such a move would cost would be better spent improving the city of Sao Paulo. But money which in *the nature of things in Brazil* might well be found for a new capital—a project in which many fortunes would *no doubt be made—would* never be found for improvements in Sao Paulo itself. Also, the more attractive Sao *Paulo is made the more* people will flock to it.

Governor Maluf lost this argument, voted down by a *hostile state assembly. He* likes getting out and about in a flamboyant manner, but now finds it almost im*possible to make the public* appearances he would like because of hostile public reception almost everywhere.

If Sao Paulo is now the most politicized state in the country, it is also increasingly becoming a bastion of opposition, and this is a *concern to the central Gov*ernment, keen to retain power in the elections to be held next year. Apart from elections for both houses of Congress, and for state legislatures, there are to be direct elections for state governors, the first in almost two *decades.*

On the face of it, it looks as if the veteran candidate of the Movimento Democrático *Brasileiro (PMDB)*, Senhor Franco Montoro, now one of the two senators for the state, would win *easily. But Senhor Montoro* has also been left behind by swiftly moving events. He has played hardly any part *in the recent formation of* new popular organizations encouraged by the church, which have led to the formation of the *Partido dos* Trabalhadores (Workers' Party).

He is fundamentally a *populist leader and increas*ingly vulnerable in the refined political environment of Sao Paulo. The aim of *the central government for* Sao Paulo, as it is for all the states of the country, is to attempt to split the opposition as a tactic for getting its own man elected.

One politician who will probably benefit from this *strategy is the still contro*versial ex-president Jânio Quadros, who resigned the presidency in 1961 and can, to some degree, be held *responsible for the subse*quent breakdown of democracy in Brazil.

Senhor Quadros has now allied himself with the tiny rump of the PTB, the Brazilian Labour Party. The main bulk of this small party, led by Senhor Leonel Brizola, of *Rio Grande do Sul*, deprived of the magic initials PTB by a controversial court decision in favour of the fac*tion led by Vargas's niece*, Senhora Ivete Vargas, have formed the PDT, a party with little expression in Sao Paulo. However, Vargas, "the man with the new broom", strikes a chord with many older Brazilians, who feel he was pushed out of presidential office in 1961 by "dark forces" and are likely to vote for him.

The revival of Quadros, encouraged by the Government, has also given a new lease of life to the followers of his traditional enemy, Senhor Ademar de Barros, still smarting from the fact that their man never made it to the presidency while *Quadros did, and they may* field a candidate too, further splitting the vote.

It remains to be seen what *Lula's PT, the Workers'* Party, will do. Senhor Luis Inácio would like to stand, and recent opinion polls have *shown that he would stand a* good chance of being elected governor. His forceful personality, his close identification, being a migrant from *the north-east, with so many* Paulistas, and the fact that he is really the only man around with completely clean hands make him an attractive proposition to many voters, middle as well as working class. Later this month Lula is due to stand *trial on two charges of vio*lating national security laws.

One is for incitement to strike, the other for incitement to class violence. It is conceivable that he will receive some punishment, even imprisonment, which would remove him from politics for some time. In any case, if he were to stand for governor and win, it is *doubtful whether he could* be absorbed by the system and it is unlikely that he would be allowed to assume office. *Many are urging* caution for fear of precipitating a crisis, and a return to more arbitrary govern*ment. The communist party*, now allied with the PMDB, is urging this line.

Relations between Sao Paulo and Brasilia are always a fascinating topic for discussion. Long gone are the days when there was *a risk of Sao Paulo seceding* from the federation. The state now needs the rest of Brazil more than the rest *of the country needs it.* Although so few presidents have come from Sao Paulo in recent times, it has usually been able to capture for *itself perhaps an even more* important post, that of finance minister.

However, under the present electoral system, which allows a maximum number of congressmen from any state, regardless of population, and only two senators *per state, regardless of size*, Sao Paulo returns far fewer members per head of population to Brasilia than any *other state. Because Sao* Paulo is increasingly a state of opposition in Congress, this imbalance is unlikely to be modified easily.

There may be some changes in the electoral rules before 1982, in an attempt by the Government to hold on to power. At present, votes can be cast for any candidate in any ballot box in the state, and those candidates with the largest number of votes throughout the state are elected. It is felt that altering this system to the British one, of constituencies, might alter the balance in favour of the government party, and this *may be adopted before 1982.*

Under the existing rules, voters may vote for candidates of different parties *for both local and federal* government posts. These elections are to be combined in 1982, and the rules may *be changed to require* electors to choose all candidates from the same party. Many electors now vote for opposition politicians for *Congress, while they are* more likely to vote for government men for local posts, feeling, not without reason, that these men are likely to have easier access to funds. All these possible changes are likely to have great importance to Sao *Paulo, where in the last vote* for the Senate the government party candidate was in third place.

It is *perhaps on the* Workers' Party, the PT, that eyes should be most firmly fixed. The PT is the country's newest and most dynamic party and its fortunes could well be taken as a measure of Brazil's real intentions to move towards democracy. In a decision which came as a surprise to many, not least its own members, the party was *allowed* to register officially last December. Some pretext could have been found to disallow it, but was *not*, which is a healthy sign. The next test will be the trial of Lula, and other PT leaders.

There are signs that with the increased participation of those who now have roots in Sao Paulo, as *second and third generation* immigrants with high aspirations, the state will increasingly occupy the centre of Brazil's political stage.

Patrick Knight

The Rua Direita, the commercial centre of Sao Paulo.

'Locomotive which pulls Brazil'

Sao Paulo is often referred to as "the locomotive which pulls Brazil", and although this description is deeply resented by most of the other 21 states which form the Brazilian federation, it is substantially true. Much more than is the case in countries which have grown over a far longer period, Sao Paulo state, which comprises only 3 per cent of Brazil, yet which concentrates about a fifth of the population, almost half of industry, and more than a third of the country's total wealth, is the nation's leading state in every sphere.

Partly because of its own natural advantages, but probably more because of the nature of communications in the second half of the twentieth century, in a country where aircraft frequently reached places before cars did, Sao Paulo has an importance which it is difficult to appreciate from an old world, or even a North American, standpoint.

Sao Paulo is not the nation's capital, yet it concentrates almost half of the nation's industry, pays almost half its taxes; most of the banks have their head offices there, and the state is responsible for 16 per cent of the country's agricultural output. Few states approach the levels of farm productivity of Sao Paulo either, and increases of farm output in the state, which have been more than 7 per cent in each of the past three years, have almost all been accounted for by increased productivity rather than the incorporation of new lands as is the case elsewhere in Brazil. The average per capita income of Sao Paulo state is about $3,000—almost twice the national average.

Although Sao Paulo is important as an agricultural producer, it is its industrial predominance which is most striking. The state is responsible for 47 per cent of Brazil's industrial output, while 120 of the 170 most important multi-national companies operating in Brazil have their headquarters there. Equally as important, and probably more so in the future, is that the state is responsible for 60 per cent of the country's fast-growing exports of manufacturers.

A decade ago, Brazil's industrial exports were a very small proportion of the whole. Now they are responsible for almost half, and the list is no longer confined merely to instant coffee, soya oil, shoes and textiles, the standbys of most NICs, or newly-industrializing countries.

Sao Paulo's 80,000 factories, which now employ 2,500,000 workers, make almost everything a modern state requires, and are increasingly able to find export markets not only for the cars, lorries and buses made at competitive prices in the state, but also a wide range of machines and consumer durables. Many are highly complex, and are being sold mainly to Africa and the rest of Latin America, fast-growing mar-markets hardly affected by the present world recession, which on closer examination is seriously affecting only a dozen developed countries.

The proportion of the $60,000m value of the Sao Paulo state product represented by industry is far higher than that of many Western European countries.

Other international comparisons show that the economy of Sao Paulo state is stronger than that of at least six European countries, and any Latin American country other than Mexico and possibly Argentina. There is some doubt whether it is greater than that of Argentina or not. It depends on which figures are used, and whether Paulistas are feeling in optimistic or pessimistic mood.

The value of Sao Paulo's agricultural production is substantially greater at $6,600m than that of far larger Argentina, worth less than $5,000m. Sao Paulo's agriculture has become very diversified, and has been sufficient to feed the state's population of 24 million people, or at least that part of it which can afford to eat sufficient food—far higher than anywhere else in Brazil. Sugar is the most important crop, and the state produces almost half—of Brazil's 7,500,000 tonnes production.

But perhaps more interesting is that it distils two thirds of the alcohol now made. About 2,500 million litres was distilled in 81 refineries in the state last year, and if all goes to plan, Sao Paulo will have tripled its output of alcohol by 1985, to provide the bulk of the 10,700 million litres to be available by then. This will be enough to power about five million cars. As more than 40 per cent of Brazil's fleet of 7,500,000 vehicles are registered in the state, this is not surprising, but it is causing some major problems. The first is that vast areas of the state which previously grew a wide variety of subsistence and food crops, such as maize, rice, beans, vegetables and beef, as well as cotton for industry, and castor oil for lubrication, are being turned over to subsidized sugar cane production.

Apart from the long-term physical risks of monoculture, this is also having a negative effect on the rural population, which at less than 10 per cent of the whole, is by far the lowest proportion in all of Brazil, where a third of the population still lives in the countryside. Many farm workers are being pushed off the land into the towns and cities, or even forced to leave the state for Amazonia. It is probable that some form of land zoning will be introduced into the state in the near future, despite the Government's innate reluctance to interfere with the laws of the market.

This will be the only way to avoid a situation whereby foodstuffs have to be carried by lorry for hundreds, even thousands, of kilometres from neighbours, passing through subsidized sugar cane fields on their way. However, although sugar is increasingly important to Sao Paulo, about a fifth of Brazil's coffee is still grown in the state, and it is an important export earner, contributing to the $7,000m which Sao Paulo's exports earned in 1980. However, the coffee bushes are gradually being shifted to states to the north of Sao Paulo and Parana, partly because of the increasing severity of frosts in recent years.

Coffee was probably the greatest single factor in making Sao Paulo the important state it is, as the huge profits coffee production and its export brought to the state at the beginning of the century enabled the first industries to be built up. This industrial base and its workforce attracted the more modern industries which have come to replace the textiles and food processing, which were predominant until as recently as the 1950s. As well as industrial growth, Sao Paulo has diversified its agriculture enormously in recent times. Soya has become important, and while the state is still the most important cotton producer, the area planted to it has shrunk, although increased productivity has largely kept output constant.

Another newcomer is citrus. Those of you who have frozen orange juice for breakfast are almost certainly enjoying something which has travelled to your table from Sao Paulo. This would not have been the case only five years ago, but since then, Brazil has come to be responsible for 80 per cent of the orange juice traded around the world, and 90 per cent of the country's output, almost all of which is exported, comes from the massive new plantations and processing plants up state.

This is only the latest of many booms in Sao Paulo, and although over-optimism has resulted in too many bushes being planted in the past few years, and there is now a glut of juice, something like $300m is being earned each year from orange juice exports, wh demand still grows strong

Like most of Brazil, state is being encouraged put ever greater emphasis to agriculture, to help to crease exports, and cut fi prices, at a time when in tion is running at more t 100 per cent. The econo of the state, as that of country as a whole, g last year at an unexpect and to many rather unv come, 8.5 per cent, e more than that in indus Inflation is encourag people to spend more their incomes on housi consumer goods, and la speculation, and saving a investment have dropped worrying levels.

Measures taken recen by the central Governme on top of sharp cuts public spending announ last year, are working th way through the econo and will almost certai mean that Sao Paulo is as hard as, if not har than, the rest of the coun this year and next. growth rate of only 5 p cent is expected in 1980. T Sao Paulo economy, l that of Brazil as a who does not show signs slowing.

Those in charge of t state's economy are rel tant to opt for monetar solutions, which are prod ing such controversial sults in the countries whe they are being tried, su as Chile, Uruguay a Britain. However, even w the present limited slowi there has been a worryi reduction in the number new jobs available in t state in the past few yea

Still, with the prior being given by this Gove ment to exporting and ag culture—two of Sao Paul strong points—the sta should escape the worst any recession, although n body now expects the hi growth rates of the 196 and 1970s to return.

Patrick Knigh

Banking groups' rapid expansion

Since the military coup in 1964, banking has been the most favoured area of the Brazilian economy. According to Banco Lar, which is linked to Chase Manhattan Bank, the bank's share of national income doubled from 5 per cent in 1965 to 10 per cent in 1978. Reflecting the overall vigour of the Sao Paulo economy, banking groups from Sao Paulo have expanded particularly rapidly and it has now replaced Rio de Janeiro as the country's main financial centre.

Banking has also gone through a savage process of concentration over the past three decades, as banks have fought bitterly for survival: There are now 106 banking groups, compared with 400 in 1950. Sao Paulo has taken the offensive in this struggle; six of the country's 10 largest private commercial banks and seven of its 10 leading investment banks are now based in Sao Paulo.

Brazil's largest banking conglomerate, the Bradesco group, is based in Sao Paulo. It controls the largest private commercial bank, the largest investment bank and the second largest finance house. It also has interests in property, insurance and printing, and has diversified into such unlikely areas as cattle rearing in the Amazon and, more recently, the manufacture of computer software.

The group was founded by Senhor Amador Aguiar, one of Brazil's most successful self-made men. Senhor Aguiar came from a poor peasant family, and never acquired the urbane sophistication generally associated with a successful banker. He started his career in banking as an office boy, and built his empire through a mixture of shrewd business sense and dedication to an extreme form of evangelical Christianity.

The headquarters of the group, on the outskirts of Sao Paulo, is called the City of God. It houses about 800 families, most of whose members work for the group. In the early days the company established strong relations with its employees, providing housing, education and medical services but paying low wages.

With the group's rapid expansion, this paternalism has begun to falter; it may well decline further, as Senhor Aguiar moved into semi-retirement last year.

The group built up its strength by concentrating on expansion in remote areas where banking services had previously been unknown. As Brazil's agricultural frontier has moved back rapidly in recent decades, and as vast areas of previously unoccupied land have been turned into rich agricultural fields, this strategy has worked well.

Sao Paulo's leading private commercial banks in cruz m (end-Dec 1979)

Bank	National ranking	Deposits	Loans	Net assets (a)	Net profit (b)	Profitability ((a)/(b)) (in per cent)
Bradesco	1	88,966	73,820	22,093	3,180	14.4
Itaú	2	52,232	47,886	9,551	1,161	12.2
Real	5	32,811	35,102	5,161	983	19.0
Mercantil de Sao Paulo	7	21,840	15,680	6,731	846	12.6
Auxiliar	9	18,361	19,768	1,994	225	11.3
Safra	10	17,388	19,378	1,611	260	16.1

Source: Exame, Melhores e Maiores, Sept 1980

About 480 of Bradesco's 1,250 agencies were opened as "pioneer" branches.

The policy has paid particularly high dividends since 1973, when the Government, anxious to prevent the emergence of over-banking, banned the opening of new agencies, with the exception of "pioneer" branches. This rule was rigorously enforced until December last year, when the Government was forced to give way to the banks' repeated demands for new agencies, and authorized the opening of another 800 branches, about 7 per cent of the present network.

Traditionally, Bradesco has concentrated its efforts on building its strength inside Brazil, and has paid scant attention to the outside world. However, this is beginning to change. One of the first steps was to take in foreign banks as shareholders in the investment bank. A European group—Deutsche Bank, Société Générale, Amro Bank and Creditanstalt—and the Sanwa Bank of Japan both have a 10 per cent stake.

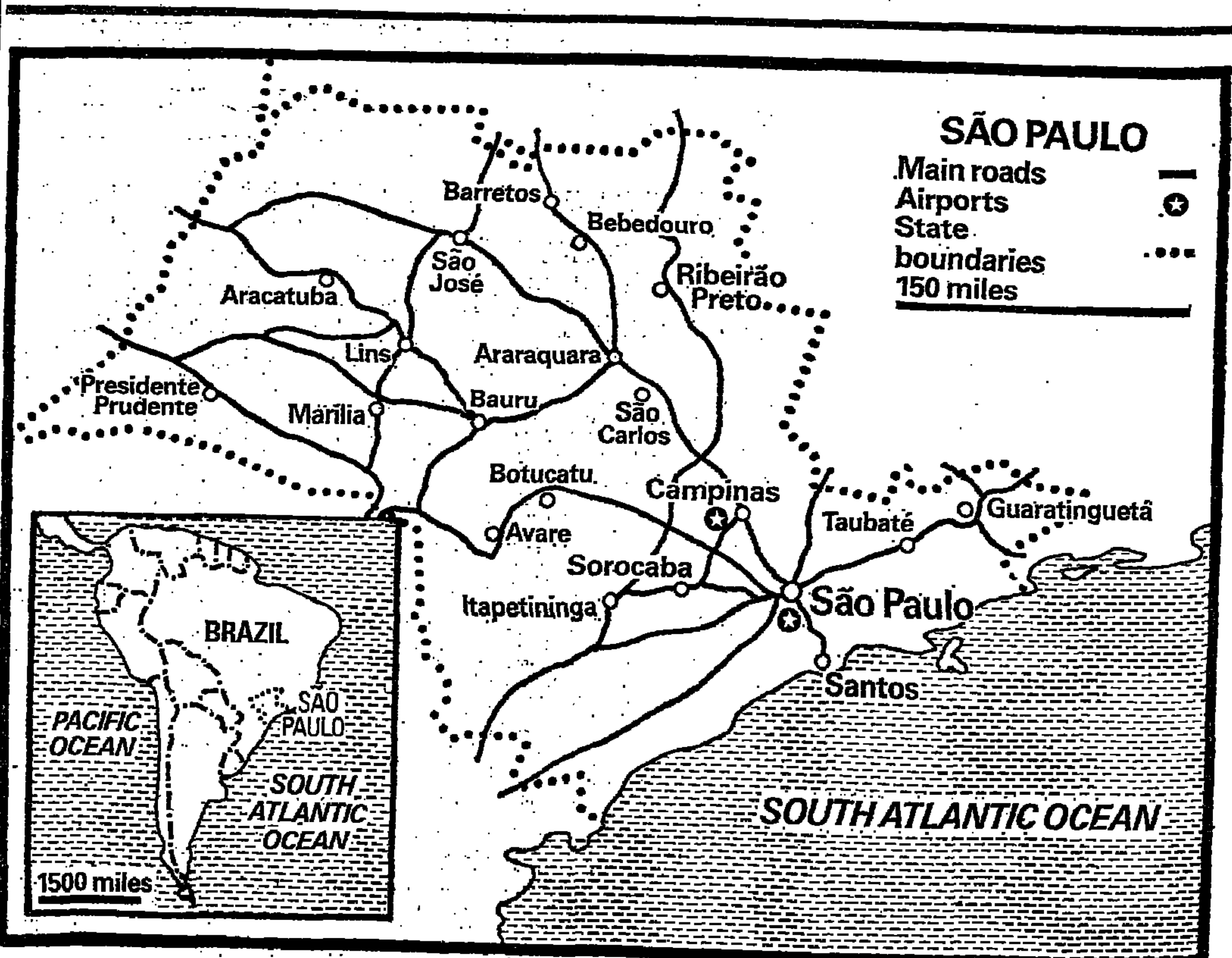
The next decision, taken as recently as last December, was to open agencies in New York and London. Significantly, the announcement came after the first board meeting chaired by Lázaro de Mello Brandao, who has finally taken over the presidency of the group from Aguiar. Brandao commented after the meeting: "It is quite unacceptable that a bank of our stature shou remain outside the consta process of internationaliz tion of our economy".

He said that the openi of foreign agencies wou help Bradesco to provi more effective assistance the country's export driv since it would be bette placed to contract forei loans to pass on to Brazili companies.

All the commercial ban have been striving strengthen their links wi the international financi markets. Brazil's balance payments difficulties hav meant the imposition stricter limits on the expa sion of bank credit and th money supply. Banks hav been driven to seek loan abroad, a development tha is firmly encouraged by th Government.

Predictably, foreign bank are in a particularly favour able position. Even befor the present credit squeeze foreign banks had strength ened their position. In 1974 the deposits in the hands of the 16 leading foreign banks operating in Brazil accounted for 11.9 per cent of total deposits in the private commercial banking sector; by 1978 the share of the foreign banks, which numbered 19 by then, had risen to 14.2 per cent. Because of the large expansion in banking turnover in this period, the real increase in their activities was much greater.

Sue Branford



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Workers may face lean period after 'miracle' years

No government wishes to have to face the social and political problems brought about by recession and the unemployment that accompanies it. This is the prospect, however, that awaits not only Sao Paulo but all Brazil if the recent changes in economic policy achieve their intended effect.

After a decade of economic growth, there are several factors in the recessionary equation which the Government must be wishing were different. Poverty, for example, is still widespread, and social security provisions for assisting the unemployed are limited and sparingly dealt out by a grudging bureaucracy. More important, the recently revived labour movement is still on the rise, and with more than a decade of sacrifices fresh in its collective memory, is in no mood to bear the brunt of the lean period which now seems inevitable.

Unemployment and underemployment, that sociological *euphemism for scratching* out a living when you cannot get a job, have traditionally been widespread in Brazil. In 1972, an official survey in greater Sao Paulo showed an unemployment rate of 12.9 per cent for men and 12 per cent for women. It made no estimate of underemployment, though other studies customarily show it to be well above the unemployment rate.

The dynamic growth of the economic miracle years *(1969-74) was made possible* at the shop-floor level by the incorporation into the workforce of large numbers of women and children, who had previously occupied a more marginal role in production. Moreover, the customary flow of job-seeking immigrants from other regions, particularly the north-east, became a flood, thus providing a pool of surplus labour which enabled employers to keep wage rates down, to replace workers past their prime (45 years) with fresh hands, and so on. Complaints were few as this was the period of repression, when the police *held carte blanche to deal* with "agitators".

At the same time, the provision of resources to meet the social needs of the rapidly growing population of Sao Paulo and other industrial centres was pitifully inadequate. Thus the new arrivals, whether in work or not, usually had no resort but the cardboard and corrugated iron shack of the shanty town, with its lack of running water, sanitary facilities, sewerage or public transport.

In 1974 Sao Paulo, despite its ugliness, seemed some kind of tribute to this form of growth. Poverty was still widespread, of course, and some social indicators, infant mortality for instance, had started to deteriorate; but the dynamism of the process was undeniable—output was shooting up, and most important of all, from the point of view of ordinary people, jobs were being created at a fast rate. The concentration of income was growing, but *it seems likely that so was* the real income of many workers, particularly the skilled, who were in short supply. Eventually, it was argued, *the real gains would* spread down to the poorest.

In the aftermath of the miracle, however, the twin problems of inflation and a deficitary balance of payments imposed themselves once more. At the same time the atmosphere of repression lifted somewhat and opposition to the military regime slowly began to manifest itself once more, not only among liberal-minded sectors of the middle classes, but also on the factory floor.

In 1978 strikes broke out in the Sao Paulo industrial suburbs known as ABC (Santo André, Sao Bernardo and Sao Caetano). The strikes, the first for 10 years, were tolerated as the regime itself, then engaged in extensive reassessment of its long-term political strategy, was coming to the point of view that a policy of liberalization provided its most viable way forward. Real gains in pay were made in the strikes, which soon spread to other sectors, *and which became* commonplace in the following months.

Though dormant during the years of repression, the *labour movement had not* been apathetic. Within its ranks had been developed a thoroughgoing critique of the trade union structure, which,

Construction workers in Sao Paulo, members of a workforce with whom maintenance of good relations poses a stern test for the Government.

modelled on classical fascist lines, is incorporated into the state apparatus. This critique now became the ideological backbone of what *was known as the "authentic"* trade-union movement, which had its origin in the metalworkers' union of Sao Bernardo, under its president, *Senhor Luís Inácio da* Silva (usually known by his nickname Lula).

It is not just the continuing vigour and vitality of the authentic movement which preoccupies the Government; it is also its insistence on seeing the improvement *of the workers' lot as a political* issue. Moreover, the movement rejects the dependence on professional politicians which has tended to characterize Brazilian working class politics in the past. It has established its own Partido dos Trabalhadores (Workers' Party), which is *rapidly gaining* adherents, not only in the industrial cities, but also in many rural areas.

The Workers' Party is a unique phenomenon in Brazilian political life. It has introduced an unforeseen factor into the regime's strategy, based as it was on the assumption that an eventual return to civilian rule would involve little risk since Congress consists of *parties which function not* according to ideological principle but on the basis of personal experiency.

The Government did make a half-hearted attempt to prevent the Workers' Party achieving legal registration, on the ground that it was class-based. But such a move could have been a dangerous provocation, and eventually the party proceeded to register itself without any impediment.

Meanwhile the authentic movement has shaken up the whole trade union structure, which previously was controlled by *pelegos* (union leaders), usually corrupt, who are in the hands of the Government. The movement has won widespread support among workers by its readiness *to fight for better pay*; but its great threat, or promise, is its long-term aim of achieving legislative reforms to make the unions independent of the state.

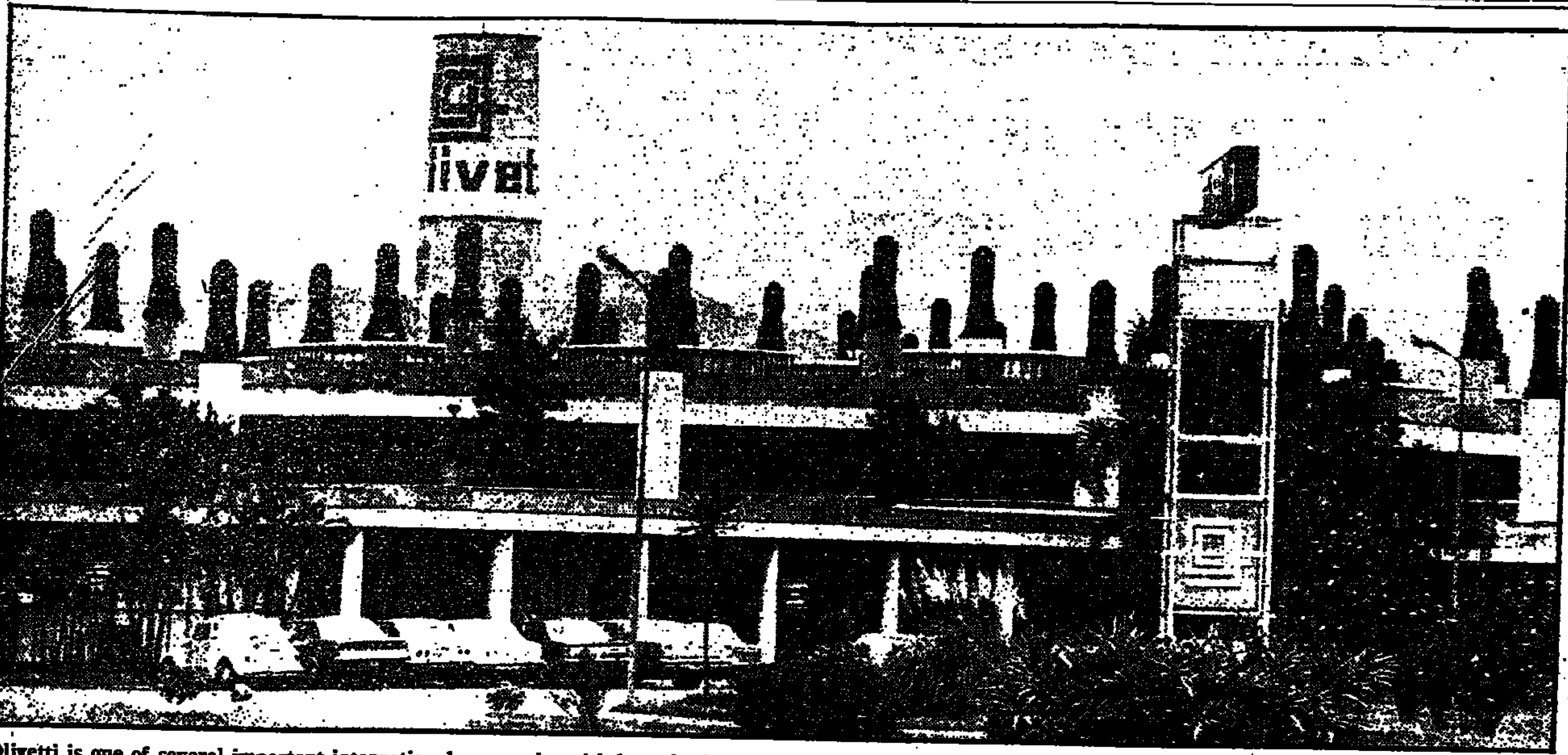
This determination was a key factor in the huge strike of metalworkers in Sao Paulo last year. Some 300,000 workers *initially came out in* support of a package of demands. After a week they had half accepted a compromise wage settlement *drawn up by the local* labour tribunal. But 150,000 regarded their demand for the right to have shop stewards as more important than the demand for higher pay, and stayed out even when the strike was declared illegal. The ABC area was to all intents and *purposes occupied* by the police and army, and the union leaders, including Lula, arbitrarily removed from office. When after 41 *days they returned to work*, their demands unmet, it was not because of the increasing level of police violence directed against them, but of *economic hardship*.

The Government was more than a little impressed by this display of what it termed "intransigency" and it was decided to break up the huge ABC metalworkers' unions into smaller units. Senhor Murilo Macedo, the Labour Minister, was sent off to the United States to investigate the suitability of that country's trade union model for Brazil. And *national security charges* were brought against Lula and 12 other union leaders for their part in the strike. More charges were brought against Lula *recently over a* speech he made in the Amazon state of Acre after the murder of the local Workers' Party organizer.

Although both *inflation* and the balance of payments have worsened considerably during the past year, the economy, and industry in *particular, has proved* surprisingly resistant to attempts to slow it down. Last month's economic package signals acceptance by the Government that a recession must be brought about. The target for growth this year is 4.5 per cent, very modest for a developing country and well below the 6 per cent needed to create enough jobs to keep unemployment and underemployment at their present levels.

Rising unemployment often damps labour militancy. It is unlikely, however, that the authentic movement will remain quiescent. Rather, some time this year, the Government will probably face its sternest test yet in the kind of labour relations which its predecessors preferred to repress out of sight.

Nick Terdre



Olivetti is one of several important international companies with factories in the city.

The hub of industrial production

There are few major countries of the world in which one state has such an overwhelming proportion of total industrial production as Sao Paulo. Almost half the output of what is now the world's tenth largest economy is to be found in the state, most within 30 miles of the city itself.

There are various reasons. There are abundant resources of hydroelectricity, easy to harness; a climate which, because of the altitude of the city and surrounding areas is, for most of the year, more conducive to hard work than in most of Brazil; the availability of surplus capital from the early boom years of coffee production, when Brazil was responsible for almost 90 per cent of the coffee traded around the world, most of it from Sao Paulo state.

But it was not until the 1950s that Sao Paulo really began to diversify, and attain rates of growth which sometimes reaches well over 10 per cent a year, with a huge influx of men, skills and capital from the rest of Brazil and, increasingly, overseas. Of the 170 multinational companies which have played so great a part in Brazil's recent development, 120 have their headquarters in the state.

It was during the Kubitchek government that Sao Paulo industry began to flourish, with the first major investments in the motor industry, and the building of such industries, as steel, oil refining and electricity generating equipment.

Steel is one of the few industries in which Sao Paulo is not predominant. The important, and increasingly efficient, Sao Paulo Steel Company, Cosipa, is responsible for only a quarter of Brazil's steel output, which is concentrated in the states of Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro. This is because these states are nearer the reserves of iron ore, a raw material that Sao Paulo lacks.

However, the Cosipa plant has been one of Brazil's most successful steel exporters, mainly to the United States and Europe, and in 1980 for the second year in succession Brazil's exports of steel were greater in value than its imports.

Although Brazil's steel output is now the eighth largest in the world, it still has to import some special steels, although such specialized steels are made in Sao Paulo. It is also increasingly the state where the major concentration of non-ferrous processing, apart from aluminium smelting, is carried on.

Despite its predominant position, Sao Paulo is mainly a processing and finishing state, rather than one where raw materials are mined or initially processed. Although the state has an important petrochemical industry, little new investment in the first stages of chemical refining is being made there, but in Bahia and Rio Grande do Sul instead. Sao Paulo is where finishing processes are carried on.

Aluminium smelting will increasingly be concentrated in the Amazon regions where enormous reserves are found, and where energy is abundant. New steel making investment is being concentrated in Minas Gerais, in Espirito Santo and, at a later stage, will be increasingly in the north.

Sao Paulo is predominant in heavy industry and consumer goods, spearheaded by the important motor industry, 90 per cent of which is concentrated in Sao Paulo state and which is now the world's eighth largest. For the past three years, just over a million vehicles have been made each year, about 600,000 of them passenger cars.

The Volkswagen, General Motors, Ford and Scania plants are to be found in and around Sao Paulo, one of the major concentrations in the world. Only Fiat, and the recently arrived Volvo plants are not in Sao Paulo.

The home market has been the major attraction for the industry for the past decade and, apart from VW, which has exported some 15 to 17 per cent of its output, the rest have exported only a small proportion of their output.

However, it looks as if Brazil's motor industry is at long last facing a significant fall. The high cost of fuel, and a credit squeeze increasing in intensity, has ended the boom and VW, seeing its market share shrinking, laid off 3,000 workers last month.

The most pessimistic forecasts are that output will be down by more than 10 per cent this year. And all the motor companies are planning to step up their exports over the next few years, in the wake of major investments. The industry is already Brazil's major industrial exporter, and vehicles and parts worth more than $1,500m have been sold abroad in each of the past few years.

An increasing trend will be the export of engines and components in greater numbers. Ford, VW and Fiat already export hundreds of thousands of engines to other plants around the world. General Motors will soon be adding 250,000 engines for its "world car" to this number, starting this year. For their weight, engines are very valuable, as price advantages in several export trades are offset by high freight charges.

With labour costs a fifth or sixth of those in Western Europe, and most raw materials far cheaper, cars made in Sao Paulo can be sold for half the price of similar vehicles in Europe or the United States—or for even less. But high freight charges and infrequent sailings mean that they are often not competitive except on the Latin American continent.

Brazil imports little other than oil, wheat from Argentina and Canada, some coal and non-ferrous minerals, and advanced factory components. But unlike Japan, which can invariably find some important commodity it lacks to carry as a return load, ships leaving Brazil are often forced to make the return journey empty. This makes manufacturers uncompetitive in many markets.

High unit value goods such as engines, and some other sub-assemblies and components, do not suffer to the same extent. In any case, they are mainly sold to Europe and the United States, from where there are return cargoes, whereas the tough Brazilian-made cars are best suited to African, or other Third World conditions, where Japanese penetration is increasing.

The Embraer 18-20 seater Bandeirante aircraft, made near Sao Paulo, familiar to cross-country travellers in Britain and other European countries as well as the United States, has proved to be one of the world's most successful feeder aircraft. It is economical and came on to the market when fuel prices were rising rapidly and small jets were pricing themselves out of the market.

Brazil has sold well over 100 of these aircraft abroad as well as many more to her own feeder lines. It is hoping to follow this success with a 30-seater Brasilia model, due to fly next year, although competition will be far greater than it was for the smaller aircraft.

Another industry almost totally dominated by Sao Paulo is railway rolling stock. Although Brazil's railway building programme has been rather stop-go in recent years, with the pressing need for fuel efficient railway lines coming into conflict with the need for savings in government investment, three major lines are being built. Although none is in Sao Paulo state, large orders for locomotives and rolling stock have been placed, while suburban railway systems are also being extended and modernized.

The energy investment plan will not be curtailed and with demand for electricity growing by 12 per cent a year, more capacity is being installed than already exists in all Brazil. The need for turbines, transmission and transformation equipment is keeping much of Brazil's heavy industry almost fully occupied.

The arms industry is also concentrated in Sao Paulo. Several hundreds of the fast armoured cars sold to Iraq are playing a role in the current hostilities. Brazil has also specialized in refurbishing older Second World War tanks and large orders from China and Egypt are reported to be in the pipeline. Brazil's main markets for arms are in the Third World and in 1980 some 80 per cent of exports went to less developed countries.

With output of staples such as soya, coffee, cocoa and rice continuing to increase, industries making machinery for processing farm commodities are flourishing, as is the tractor and farm machinery industry which is largely concentrated in Sao Paulo. Also flourishing are firms playing a part in the alcohol programme. Several hundred, often large, distilleries, attached to sugar mills, will have been built by 1985.

Patrick Knight

Sugar to make alcohol for energy

"Within a few years the state of Sao Paulo will be just one enormous sugar-cane plantation, straddled by fly-overs", a former Brazilian minister said recently. The sugar will not be spooned into the coffee of sweet-toothed Brazilians; neither will it be used to produce ever-larger quantities of *cachaca*, the popular local white rum; nor will it be exported.

Instead, it will be converted into alcohol and pumped into the engines of the rapidly increasing number of alcohol-fuelled vehicles. By 1985, Brazil should be producing 10,700 million litres of alcohol, which should be enough to account for 40 per cent of fuel consumption by vehicles.

No less than 65 per cent of the sugar-cane is to be cultivated in the state of Sao Paulo, although this state only covers 3 per cent of the country's total territory. From one point of view, this is only fair, as Sao Paulo, the industrial centre of the country, accounts for an overwhelmingly large share of the country's energy consumption. But many Brazilians regret this decision for they see the alcohol programme as a failed opportunity to carry out a major social programme that could have led to a significant redistribution of wealth in Brazil.

For the Government could have opted for large-scale production of alcohol from cassava, a crop that can be readily cultivated by peasant farmers.

None the less, the alcohol programme is undoubtedly a daring and imaginative response to the heavy constraint imposed on the country's development by its escalating oil bill. For, despite its size, Brazil is short of known hydrocarbon reserves. Through considerable effort, Petrobrás, the state oil company, has been able to increase domestic oil production up to about 200,000 barrels a day, which is still only a fifth of consumption. By 1985 the Government hopes that the share of imported oil in total consumption will have dropped to 30 per cent; by then domestic oil should account for 20 per cent and the remaining 50 per cent should come from renewable resources, mainly sugar-cane alcohol.

However, sugar-cane alcohol can provide only part of the answer to Brazil's long-term energy problem. An important constraint is, paradoxically, shortage of land. It is estimated that about three million hectares—that is, an area of land as large as Holland—is required to meet the 1985 alcohol target. It is questionable whether all this land should be used to produce fuel for cars.

Nor is it feasible for sugar-cane alcohol to substitute any other fuel except petrol, which accounts for 42 per cent of Brazil's energy needs.

Because of its industrial power, Sao Paulo consumes far more electricity than any other state. The South-east region, made up of the states of Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Espirito Santo and Minas Gerais, accounts for 74 per cent of the country's electricity consumption.

CESP—Companhia Energética de Sao Paulo, the state government's electricity company, has been trying to satisfy this voracious appetite. Over the past 15 years, CESP has built 16 hydro-electric power stations, which have a combined installed capacity of 8,300,000 kW. None the less, this considerable effort has bought no more than temporary relief to the state's energy shortage.

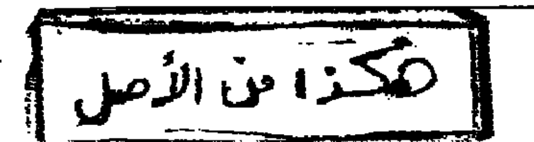
It has been calculated that all the major water resources in the South-east region will be exhausted by 1985.

In view of the Government's deflationary policies, these predictions of shortages may prove alarmist. It is none the less clear that by the end of this decade at the latest, Sao Paulo will be importing energy. Where will it come from?

One plan is to bring down energy from the Amazon region, which has the capacity to generate at least 60 million kW. One of the problems so far has been technical: how to transmit the energy over such a long distance—about 2,000 km—without substantial energy loss. However, almost half the power generated by Itaipu will be converted to direct current and brought by cable to Sao Paulo. This experience will prove invaluable for later transmissions from the Amazon.

Another project, which is under negotiation, is the construction of a pipeline from Santa Cruz de la Sierra in Bolivia, where large reserves of natural gas have been discovered, to Corumbá and on to Sao Paulo. This scheme, which has been mooted for several years, was brought much closer to reality with the announcement last month that a letter of intention had been signed by the Bolivian and Brazilian governments.

Sue Branford



Migrants from all over Brazil go to Sao Paulo taking with them their customs in food and drink.

Flood of migrants has abated

Brazil is a country of migrants. The census taken last year is expected to show that 60 per cent of the country's 120 million people had moved from one municipality to another during the previous decade. Forty per cent of the population made such a move in the 1960s, and Brazil is increasingly becoming a country where most people live in towns or cities. More than 60 per cent now do, and 70 per cent will by the end of the century. No state in Brazil has proved more attractive to migrants than Sao Paulo, and even now almost half of the state's 24 million people were born outside it.

However, patterns have changed enormously in recent years and the flood of immigrants who were attracted to the state from the 1940s to the end of the 1960s has now slowed to a trickle. Migrants on the move within Sao Paulo state, and coming into the city itself, are far more likely to have come from somewhere else in the region than from the north-east, as was the case for so long.

Although the great flood of immigration into Sao Paulo closely followed the rapid period of industrialization, and reached its peak in the late 1950s and early 1960s, when 250,000 people a year were moving into the state from the north-east, immigration started far earlier, although on a far smaller scale. Already the country's industrial state, although then virtually confined to textiles and food processing, Sao Paulo was the great attraction to tens of thousands of Italians and Spaniards, men who gave such a flavour to the early life of the city, then only a few hundred thousand in size.

Important contingents came from the Middle East as well, and Sao Paulo's Lebanese and Jewish communities are important. Large contingents of Japanese, often sponsored by their government, came in the 1930s, and this community has been particularly important in ensuring that Paulistos eat better and have more variety of foods than any other state of Brazil. For the Japanese are Brazil's market gardeners, and they still ensure that the city is provided with fruit and vegetables of a quality which can hardly be equalled anywhere.

Interestingly, and in contrast to what has been the pattern in North American cities, the Japanese are really the only ethnic group to have maintained their own quarter of town, Liberdale, where along with the smaller Chinese community they have an enclave conveniently near the centre of the city for gourmets. The parts of town occupied at the beginning of the century by the Italians and Spaniards are now commercial districts, overwhelmed by the rapid growth of the city, and this fast growth has served to make the city of Sao Paulo one of the most effective melting pots in the world.

The mass immigration into Sao Paulo during the industrial boom which began in the 1940s, and has still not entirely spent itself, was one of the biggest mass movements of population in history. In its peak year, 1952, 250,000 new arrivals were recorded in the city. As recently as 1940 greater Sao Paulo had been a collection of towns which could boast a population of 1,500,000, but even then almost 70 per cent were immigrants. At that time, the city concentrated only a fifth of the population of the state. By 1950, the population had almost doubled to 2,600,000, and by 1960 it had doubled again, to five million, half of them immigrants.

Growth slowed marginally in the 1960s, and by the 1970s the city had 8.100.000 people living in it, but the proportion of immigrants had by then dropped to 32 per cent. Now the population of greater Sao Paulo is about 12 million, the city accounts for about 45 per cent of the population of the state, but the proportion of them who are recent immigrants has dropped to 16 per cent.

In the past few years, immigrants reporting to government checkpoints each year have shrunk to a mere 20,000, 10 per cent of the numbers coming into the city in the great boom. More, about 30,000, are coming into the city from other parts of the state than from outside it, and the city's growth is now far greater than both.

Sao Paulo is recognized by all concerned to be saturated, and people and industries are turning to a new pattern of migration, moving to half a dozen other important cities in the state, most of them less than 200km from Sao Paulo itself, and along the important roads. Many of them are growing just as fast as the capital did 20 years ago.

The reasons for migration have changed fundamentally as well. Demographers refer to two basic types, "pull" migration, where potential travellers are attracted to another place by the real opportunities of a better life, and "push" migration, where people are just forced to leave, without anywhere obvious to go. In the 1950s and 1960s, Sao Paulo provided the pull and whole families of north-easterners made the trek, most of them catching the famed "train from the north" which left the city of Salvador, in Bahia, and four days later ended its slow trek at the Roosevelt station in Sao Paulo, bringing 5,000 people at a time.

Now the train from the north no longer runs, and it is not even possible to travel by train from Salvador to Sao Paulo, as the line is for freight only along some of its length. Those who come take the bus. But there are few families among them, and most are young men who plan to stay in the big city for a few years, then return to their families with a bit of capital. A recent survey of migrants showed that half of them were travelling to take advantage of the better health facilities that rich Sao Paulo has available, and did not plan to stay long.

Most of today's migrants are being pushed rather than pulled as there are few job opportunities to attract them to Sao Paulo. There are no large-scale civil construction works going on, the first foothold on the ladder for most migrants, who now have to travel deep into the interior to work on dams or in mines to get a start. Most of the migrants are being pushed off the land, and this explains the greater move from the interior of the state, and from the rest of the south-east, now ironically generating more immigrants than the backward north-east, as modern methods and machines push labour off the land. Now only 9 per cent of Sao Paulo's population works on the land, but other states are following its lead.

The change in status of the immigrants has also led to a new phenomenon in Sao Paulo, favelas or slums. When those hordes came in from the north-east in the 1950s and 1960s, they may have lived badly at the beginning, but they did not end up in the sort of fetid shacks associated with the Rio de Janeiro hillsides, or the Recife and Salvador swamps. Now they often do, and a million or more are now living in favelas in Sao Paulo, a good reason why the city no longer attracts the huge numbers it once did.

Perhaps because the country is on the move so much (although the proportion of immigrants in the United States is apparently even greater), the country has managed to preserve a great deal of racial and ethnic harmony. A large proportion of those who have moved into Sao Paulo in recent decades have black or dark skins. It would be Utopian to state that there is no colour prejudice in Brazil or in Sao Paulo. But there is certainly little within the thoroughly mixed-race working class in the factories of Sao Paulo, where every shade from black to the white of Scandinavian stock can be seen working the same machines.

Such has been the pace of change, and the numbers involved, that society has not had time to solidify into any kind of mould. The only possible exceptions are those proud Japanese who take four times the University places in Sao Paulo that their numbers would justify. But even they are gradually succumbing, and beginning to intermarry in increasing numbers.

Patrick Knight

Shanty squatters to get real homes

Visitors who fly to Sao Paulo are always amazed by their first glimpse of the city: the massed ranks of skyscrapers, the broad avenues lined by towering glass-fronted office blocks, the spaghetti junctions packed with shiny, colourful Volkswagens, Fiats and Fords. Around the city huge car factories, thousands of smoking chimneys and highways full of heavy lorries contribute to the impression of an immensely wealthy city, vibrating with progress.

It is easy to see why it has been called the "locomotive of Brazil", and easy to believe that Sao Paulo state produces nearly half of Brazil's wealth. What is more difficult to believe is the poverty of the great majority of the people who live in Sao Paulo.

This is the other Sao Paulo—the Sao Paulo of the periphery, of the millions who live in slums, precarious self-built shanty-towns or one-room houses in sprawling developments that stretch up and down the hills round the city. Most of these developments, called *loteamentos*, are illegal (after paying for their plots of land people find they cannot get the title because the developer does not own the land) and therefore officially they do not exist.

This means they cannot be provided with public services such as water, drains, lighting or rubbish collection. They do not appear on the maps. There are 4,000 *loteamentos* in Sao Paulo suffering in this way. According to official statistics, only a third of the city's dwellings have main drainage, while half are still without water (this should drop to a tenth within five years). Half the streets are unpaved, and half unlit. Electricity, however, reaches 95 per cent of homes.

High above the city in his twenty-second-floor office, the city's chief planner dreams of the day when Sao Paulo will be finished, when all the population will be served by public services. Senhor Candido Malta—an architect, aged 44, who has headed COGEP, the municipal planning department, for the past five years — looks more like a professor in his baggy suit, rimless spectacles and beard, as he strides between the maps and piles of books that crowd his spacious office.

"Sao Paulo began without planning". Senhor Malta admits. Between the end of the First World War and 1930, the coffee capital of the world grew and industrialized rapidly. When the first road plan was drawn up in 1930, the city already had a million inhabitants. The plan lasted until 1965 by when there were five million.

But the municipal authorities closed their eyes to the city's rapid growth, afraid to face the reality of a swelling population and their needs. It was only when Senhor Faria Lima, took office as mayor in 1965 that the city's huge dimensions began to be taken into account. A new plan, called the basic urban plan, was drawn up. It included an 840km network of expressways to be built in greater Sao Paulo and 600km of mass rail transport, including improved suburban trains as well as a new underground system. Building of the expressways began, but the mass transport plans were postponed. In 1972 the population had reached nearly seven million, and the first zoning law was introduced.

In 1973 came the world energy crisis. "It's my belief that the oil crisis saved the city", Senhor Malta says. "By 1973 Sao Paulo, still using a road system planned for a city of one million, was on the edge of total traffic breakdown." The transport systems gave priority to the private car at the expense of collective transport.

Brazil's political situation, under an authoritarian military regime favouring intense income concentration as a means to rapid economic development, had boosted the car industry installed in the 1950s. Car ownership was encouraged for the minority who could afford it, while the majority were silenced by political repression. With the oil crisis, Brazil, heavily dependent on imported oil, had to rethink its transport policy, and in Sao Paulo this meant the shelving of many of the proposed expressways and a new emphasis on bus, trolleybus and rail systems.

Then came a slow liberalization of the political system, allowing more space to popular pressure. The growing activity of community movements and residents' groups, inspired by the Roman Catholic Church's active presence in the periphery, slowly led to a change in government priorities, even though public figures are still reluctant to admit they act under pressure.

Senhor Reynaldo de Barros, mayor of Sao Paulo, for example, said in a recent newspaper interview that the city periphery was now his priority because "I have a good heart". Sao Paulo city's priority is now people not cars, but lack of government funds threatens the plans. According to Senhor Malta, the accumulated deficit in public services has reached $42,000m.

But the real problem, according to Sao Paulo's planner, is not the lack of money, but the priorities of the central government. Out of every 1,000 cruzeiros paid in municipal, state and federal taxes by a Sao Paulo inhabitant, only 200 are applied in the city. The rest goes to the central Government treasury to be swallowed up in big development projects, begun in the early 1970s to turn Brazil into an industrialized nation.

At the same time, this industrialization has helped to cause the flood of people coming to the city, swelling the population and the demand for more public services. "The price of the difference between the demand and supply is paid by the poorest social classes", Senhor Malta explained.

In housing, the huge difference between the rich and the poor is most clearly seen. In Sao Paulo city, out of a total population of more than eight million nearly four million live in substandard housing. Some 650,000 live in slums, 870,000 in the *favelas* (shanty towns) or *favela*-like housing developments, without public services. The city authorities are now cracking down on these *loteamentos* making the developers pay for the provision of public services. The result is a growth in the *favela* population. Some 730,000 *favelas* are officially recognized, while new ones spring up overnight.

In the *favela*, land is free, because it is usually an unused piece of private or public land that has been "invaded". A typical inhabitant, Senhora Eva Lellis, a 40-year-old mother of six who supplements her labourer husband's wages with cleaning work, paid £200 for a three-room home in a *favela* near the airport. She gets water from a well. The Sao Paulo city authorities, aware that 85 per cent of Brazil's wealthiest city dwellers earn less than £40 a week, is legalizing the illicit housing developments and supplying facilities until the occupants can be moved to very low-cost houses known as "embryos".

These "embryos" consist of one room measuring 4.86 metres by 3.86 metres, with an outside lavatory, and are set in a 75 sq metre plot of land. The residents are expected to build on more rooms. Even these mini-houses have to bought, rather than rented, provision being made for 25-year mortgages. Government housing policy is based firmly on the owner occupier philosophy.

Apart from low incomes the main obstacle to cheap houses is the high price of land. In Sao Paulo land is seen as a profitable form of investment in a highly inflationary economy. As a result, 49 per cent of the plots of land in the city, occupying an area of 240 million sq metres, are empty—the owners waiting for prices to increase.

This chaotic state of affairs means that the poor have to build or buy their houses farther and farther out of the city, thus multiplying the cost of public services, and the time spent travelling to work.

Those who have money however—and in Sao Paulo there is a sizable moneyed class—live very well. The newspapers carry regular advertisements for luxury flats which have such refinements as fitted 6mm thick carpets, marble-floored bathrooms, maids' quarters, and terraces with panoramic views, swimming pools, tennis courts, private garage space, gardens, and closed circuit televsion to ensure that undesirables do not enter. Such apartments fetch up to $200,000.

Senhor Malta is an optimist. He believes that the timid swing to priority for public services will be maintained, and that Brazil's political liberalization must mean the allocation of more money to social projects.

He also has a trump card up his sleeve. The 1980 census showed that population growth has slowed. In Sao Paulo it is down from the estimated 4 per cent a year to 3.6 per cent. This means that COGEP's forecast of a 22 million population by the year 2000 is an overestimate. The smaller growth rate, together with the hope of more money, feed Senhor Malta's optimism.

Jan Rocha

Sao Paulo state produces half of Brazil's wealth, and the city presents a bustling scene that conceals the poverty of the peripheral slums.

Wealthy—but healthy for some only

To visiting foreign businessmen, Sao Paulo is a bustling, dynamic city. The skyscrapers, the flyovers, the smart shopping areas and the large banking centre all seem part of the wealthy, industrialized, modern world. It is easy for visitors to overlook the other Sao Paulo—the miles and miles of roughly-constructed shacks, without running water or drainage, that huddle together to the east of the city.

Disease can spread like wildfire in these unhygienic conditions, where sewage from one cesspool feeds into the well-water of the neighbouring plot. Local families use this polluted water for drinking and washing and, worst of all, for mixing with powdered milk for babies' bottles.

It is not altogether surprising that Sao Paulo had one of the world's highest infant mortality rates as recently as 1973, when 87 out of every 1,000 babies born in the greater urban area died during their first year. As this statistic includes the large upper middle-class suburbs, where living standards and medical services are excellent, the infant mortality rates among the poorer sectors of the population must have been horrifically high.

However, conditions are gradually improving. As the result of heavy investment by the state Government, water and sanitation are being brought to the poor on the outskirts of the city, although the Government estimates that the needs of the city's population as a whole will not be met until the year 2000.

It is calculated that about half of the houses in the poorer areas now have running water, compared with about a third five years ago, and that about a third are connected to the central sewage system, a rise from a quarter in 1976. As a result of these improvements, the infant mortality rate has recently dropped to 63 per 1,000 live births.

The problem of pollution, too, is gradually being tackled, though foreign visitors look askance when told that the situation was actually worse a few years ago. SEMA (Secretaria Especial do Meio Ambiente), Brazil's environmental watchdog, has taken a gradualist approach, aimed at winning the collaboration of the factory owners. It establishes the average level of pollution in an area and then demands that all factories keep within that level. This policy is achieving results.

However, despite these recent achievements, there is still concern about the health of the population. Many sociologists believe that the rate of improvement will fall off sharply over the next few years. They argue that while the provision of such basic services as running water and sanitation can improve health standards in the short term, a prolonged improvement will take place only if the general living standards get better. This has been occurring only at a very slow rate, if at all.

The latest statistics show that the share of national income going to the poorest 50 per cent of the population fell from 17.4 per cent in 1960 to 14.5 per cent in 1978. At the same time, the proportion going to the richest 10 per cent rose from 36.6 per cent to 50.5 per cent. The growth in gnp during the period ensured a real improvement in living standards for all the population, but the rise was clearly smaller for the poorer sectors.

The outlook for the poor is bleak. The Government is engaged in an out-and-out tussle to cool down the economy, and to force down the growth rate, which remained at an uncomfortable 8.5 per cent in 1980. Unless special measures are taken to alleviate the social repercussions of the recent measures, living standards of the poor will fall, with a harsh impact on their health.

The improvement — or even the maintenance—of social services during the approaching recession does not seem an important government priority. The Health Ministry, which has long been politically weak, has suffered some of the most violent reductions in the recent rounds of public spending cuts. In 1981, the federal Ministries of Health and Social Welfare will receive minimal increases in their annual budgets of 86 per cent and 61 per cent respectively, which is well below the expected rate of inflation of about 120 per cent.

The Sao Paulo state Government's health department has received even larger cuts in its budget over the past few years. When questioned by journalists recently about the cut in social welfare programmes, President Joao Baptista Figueiredo replied curtly: "The money I have is only enough to pay for Italpu, Tucuruí [the main hydroelectric projects] and the Steel Railway [to carry steel from the big new project in Minas Gerais]. And, make no mistake, if I had more, I would invest it in Carajás [a multi-million dollar mineral project]".

As a result of the cuts, even existing health services have been curtailed. Some of the health posts on the outskirts of Sao Paulo have been closed or put on a skeleton staff. The Hospital das Clinicas, which is one of the largest in Latin America, has a chronic staff shortage, uses obsolete equipment and even runs out of essential drugs.

The poor, encountering increasing difficulties in obtaining medical equipment, are turning increasingly to pharmacists, who readily sell antibiotics and other drugs over the counter without medical supervision, although this is technically illegal. It is very common to find people from the poorer sectors of the population taking strong drugs that are entirely inappropriate for their illness. Brazil has already one of the highest per capita drug consumption rates among developing nations.

Sue Branford

Schools also serve as soup kitchens

In Sao Paulo state, four million children attend more than 16,000 schools where they are taught by 170,000 teachers. Senhor Luís Ferreira Martins, the Director of Education, runs this empire from a spacious air-conditioned, carpeted office in the elegantly refurbished surroundings of a former college in the city centre.

The director, a dynamic man who did not stop signing documents all the time we talked, told me that in 1981 education will get the biggest slice of the state's budget: $65,000m, almost 20 per cent of Sao Paulo's total spending for the year, a big improvement on 1980's 13 per cent.

Much of the extra money, however, will go towards trying to improve what Senhor Martins rather euphemistically describes as "low educational productivity due to social factors". In other words, poverty impairs the children's learning capacity, and leads to high drop-out and repetition rates. Out of every 100 children who enter school, only 40 struggle through the entire eight years of the first grade.

In addition many children start school late because their parents cannot afford the books and uniform they need, or leave after only a year or two because even their meagre earnings as errand or shoe-shine boys are needed. The girls often have to stay at home and look after the younger children while their parents go out to work. As a result 17.7 per cent of seven to 14-year-olds are not receiving schooling.

Most of those who do go to school arrive hungry. Much of the school planners' time is devoted to finding ways to compensate these children for the appalling home circumstances that handicap them in learning. The first solution is to feed them. For some it is the only meal they get, whether it is a full meal, a bowl of soup or just a nutritious snack.

As a result, 1981's official school expenditure includes items such as 1,500 stoves and 5,000 spoons. For the first time many schools stayed open during the recent end-of-the-year holidays to allow the children to get their daily meal. Last year the feeding programme was extended to night schools where it was not uncommon for students to faint from hunger after coming straight from a long day's work.

Sao Paulo's night schools are ordinary first and grade schools where pupils who have to work, or have reached a certain age, can complete their basic schooling. In many peripheral areas in the capital, pressure on school places is so great that up to four sets of children have to use the same school building every day. In a few schools some receive as little as two hours' schooling a day, though the average school day is three to four hours.

An ambitious school building programme is being carried out, with new schools opened every week, but Sao Paulo's population increase of 5 per cent a year means there is a permanent deficit. Once children are in school and are being fed the next problem is to reduce the big gap between their mental and chronological ages, caused by physical and cultural poverty.

Senhor Martins told me about a new programme he has introduced to try to alleviate this problem. Called "compensatory schooling", the idea is to bring children in the poorest areas into school at six instead of seven years old, and allow them two years to complete the first-year curriculum. The aim is to reduce the numbers of children who never get beyond the first year, because they cannot reach the marks needed to move up to the second year.

These problems mean that in the same class the children's ages can range from seven to 14 or more.

Compared with some of the teachers in the poorer Brazilian states, Sao Paulo's teachers are well paid. Yet it is a profession that has consistently lost prestige as wages lagged behind the cost of living. More than 90 per cent of the teachers are women, and most have to give classes in more than one school to make ends meet. The better qualified are creamed off by the private schools that provide 10 per cent of the education for Sao Paulo children.

Ironically it is the academically better qualified children from the private schools who then go on to win almost all the places at Sao Paulo's three free state universities. If a state school child finally struggles through to university he will have to pay for his higher education by getting a job and going to a private evening or weekend college course.

A university diploma still means status although it might no longer mean a job. Every year Sao Paulo's universities turn out thousands of would-be lawyers, engineers, journalists, psychologists who end up as office workers because the economy cannot absorb them. But every year thousands of new students take their places.

There are 506 institutes of higher education in the state of Sao Paulo, 143 of them in the capital alone.

They extend from the University of Sao Paulo, with a worldwide reputation and 40,000 students, to weekend or night diploma "factories" which have found higher education a profitable enterprise.

A student at one of these private universities said she had to pay more than $3,000 registration fee to continue her second year of studies, as well as a monthly fee of $130. For this she received three hours and 20 minutes of lectures five nights a week, in classes of 150 students. In 1979, out of almost 400,000 students enrolled in colleges, only a fifth were at the state free universities, located in the capital and at scattered faculties in the interior.

J.R.

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SAO PAULO

Church is one of main forces for reform

In recent years the Roman Catholic Church has become one of the main forces for reform in Brazilian life, criticizing the Government for the direction of its economic policies and calling for greater social concern. One of the places where it has been most active has been Sao Paulo.

This is partly because of the position of Sao Paulo in Brazilian life, as the place where most of the money is made and where ideas are generated; partly because this vast city, growing all the time, encompasses so many of the problems of poverty, lack of housing, malnutrition and sheer misery that afflict Brazil as a whole.

Partly, too, it is a matter of the personality of Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, the Archbishop of Sao Paulo. Cardinal Arns believes strongly that the type of capitalism practised in Brazil leads to injustices for workers and the poor, and he has been prepared to throw the weight of the church behind them in conflicts with the Government.

Last year, for instance, the church backed a strike by metalworkers in the Sao Paulo area that the Government eventually succeeded in breaking; and there is unofficial church support for the newly-formed Workers' Party, which has much of its strength in the same area.

The Brazilian church has long been one of the leaders in the move, which began in the 1960s, towards greater involvement in social questions on the part of the church in Latin America. In Brazil this social concern was spurred by the military coup d'etat of 1964, which led to repression and to continuing hardship for the poor, in spite of the economic miracle.

For Latin America as a whole, it culminated in the meeting of bishops in Medellin, in Colombia, in 1968 when the church publicly declared itself on the side of human rights and social justice. This policy contrasted with the long-standing tendency of church leaders in Latin America to side with the forces of conservatism, as a pillar of the established order. It meant that in Brazil and elsewhere, the church was to find itself increasingly in opposition to military governments.

There have been two main areas on which the Brazilian church has focused: human rights violations such as arbitrary arrest and torture, and the needs of the poor and underprivileged. In recent years human rights have improved a great deal in Brazil, and so more attention is being paid to purely social questions.

But human rights continue to be a concern of the Sao Paulo archdiocese. There is a committee for the defence of human rights in the countries of the Southern cone — Argentina, Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay—and it publishes a magazine, called *Clamour*, in which it gives information on developments in the various countries and campaigns for improvements.

One of the main innovations of the Brazilian church has been the establishment of the "base communities", or *comunidades de base*, designed to help ordinary people to improve their lot. The movement began in Sao Paulo and there are now estimated to be more than 500 in the city alone, with others in the surrounding districts.

The fundamental idea of a base community is that it is a small group of lay people —anything from 10 to 100 —who get together as a pressure group. They are encouraged by the church, but the intention is that they should meet on their own in the evenings after work, or at weekends, and set about resolving the problems of their particular area.

There is plenty to occupy them in Sao Paulo. It is a large, sprawling city, and public facilities have not kept up with the constant growth of population. Many of the outlying districts are little more than wastelands, far from the white skyscrapers of the city centre.

Typical complaints of the people who live in these areas, which the base communities try to do something about are that there are no paved streets, no streetlights, no running water, or no drains; or that there are not enough buses into the centre, no health facilities, and no possibility of moving out of a shack in a shanty town to a proper house.

Sometimes the base communities organize demonstrations to dramatize their grievances, sometimes they make up a delegation to go and lobby some official. When there is a big issue to be tackled they try to pool their resources and coordinate the activities of several groups.

The origin of the base communities is Christian. Their activities include discussions of biblical themes, and how to relate biblical teaching to the problems of daily life. But as they have become more active, they have inevitably become political to a certain extent; and there are objections to them for that reason, not just from the Government but from more conservative-minded churchmen as well.

When the Pope visited Brazil last year there was some hope in these areas that he would rebuke the church activists on the ground that they were becoming too much involved in politics. But in the event he was clearly struck by what he saw of the poverty of much of Brazil, and fully endorsed the activist approach.

One of the places he stopped at was a football stadium in Sao Paulo, where he expressed support for the rights of workers and made a barely-veiled criticism of the military government's economic policies. It was soon clear that he did not propose to try to reverse the direction taken by the Brazilian church.

Cardinal Arns's view is that the church should not be afraid to be political when it comes to broad issues such as human rights in society. It should, however, be careful not to become identified with any political party; and he himself has made a principle of never being present when a politician speaks, so as not to appear to be endorsing him.

The distinction is a hard one to draw on a daily basis, however, especially as it is clear that many church activists are more sympathetic to the left than the right. At a recent conference of representatives of the base communities, Cardinal Arns gave a warning that they should not be taken over by political parties or they would lose their proper function.

Peter Strafford

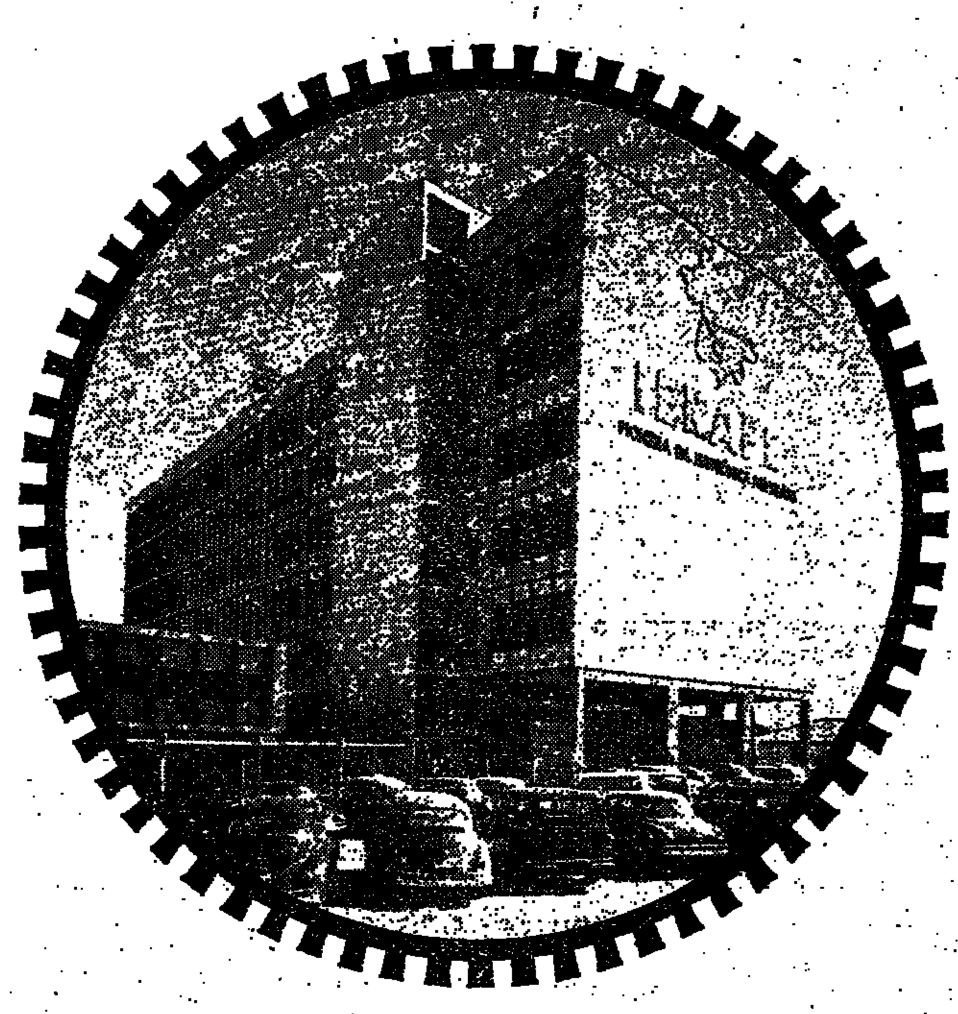
Woman in a Sao Paulo shanty town. Above: children play happily in spite of their surroundings. Top: the Pope and Cardinal Arns with security men in the city last year.

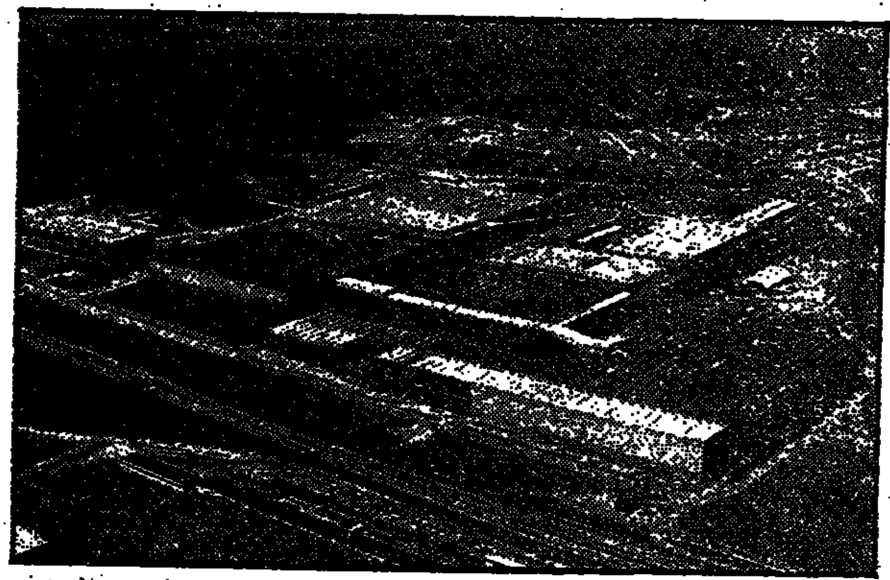
The state of São Paulo

Look at some of the facts...

São Paulo

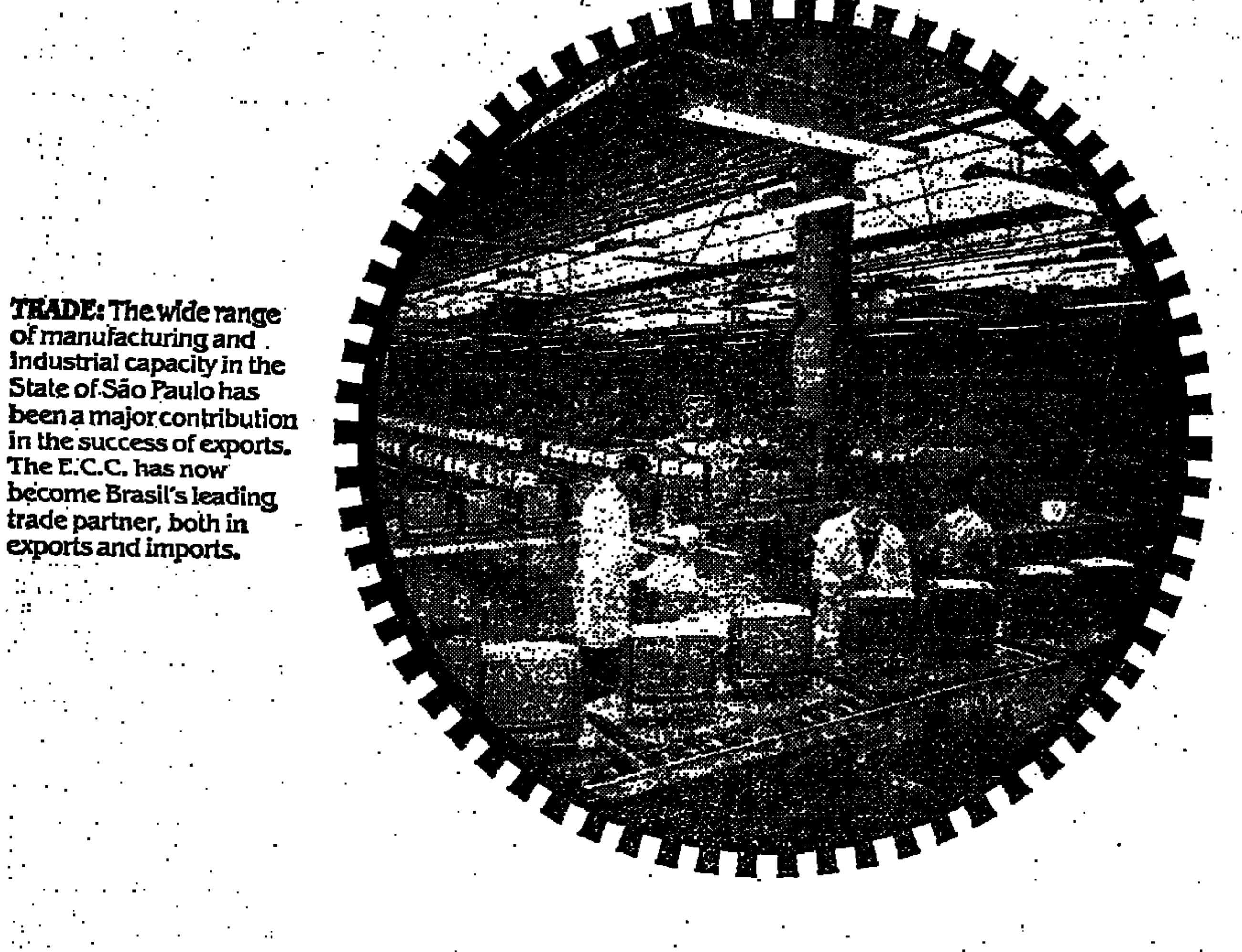
MANUFACTURING: Manufacturing industry continues to show rapid growth–8.1% in 1978. Manufactured goods, including developed technologies, now represent 40% of Brasil's total exports and exceed those of primary products.





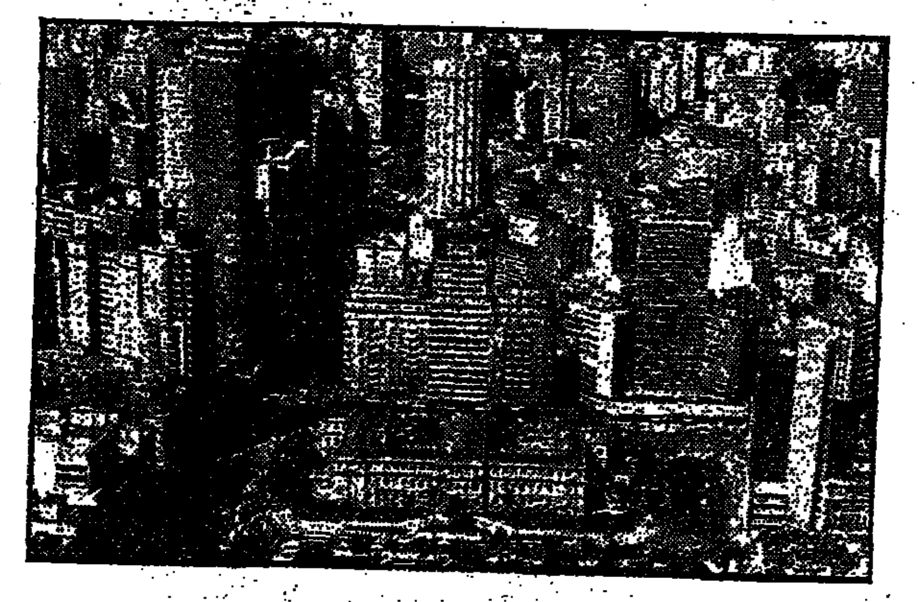
INDUSTRY: The State of São Paulo is the leading industrial zone in Latin America. Sectors of the economy currently receiving priority include petrochemicals, electronics, capital goods, fertilizers and paper manufacture. Steel production now puts Brasil 10th in the world, showing a 10% growth in 1979.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION: Processed food exports totalled US$ 1.475 million in 1978. Brasil is 95% self-sufficient in food (except wheat 46.6%). São Paulo plays a major role in its production where exports include cotton, cocoa, coffee, maize, citrus fruits and juices, soya beans, sugar and tobacco. São Paulo is one of the world's largest exporters of frozen citrus juices and a major food processor.



TRADE: The wide range of manufacturing and industrial capacity in the State of São Paulo has been a major contribution in the success of exports. The E.C.C. has now become Brasil's leading trade partner, both in exports and imports.

SÃO PAULO CITY—an historic city with dramatic growth. The State capital has a population of 8.584 million (Population of Brasil is 119 million—1980 Census). By the year 2000 São Paulo could be the world's largest city.



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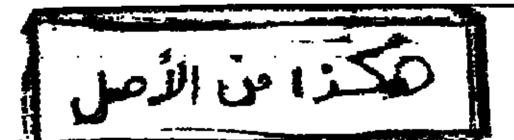
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